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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

The present report contains the budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, which amounts to $68,240,300.

The budget provides for the deployment of 151 international staff and 268 national staff.

The total resource requirements for the Logistics Base for the financial period have been linked to the objectives of the Base through a results-based-budgeting framework under the support component.

The explanations of variances in resource levels, both human and financial resources, have been linked, where applicable, to specific outputs planned by the Logistics Base.

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.)

Category	*Expenditures (2007/08)*	*Apportionment (2008/09)*	*Cost estimates (2009/10)*	*Variance*	
				Amount	*Percentage*
Military and police personnel	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian personnel	19 730.5	22 713.8	36 103.2	13 389.4	58.9
Operational costs	20 471.0	23 055.2	32 181.1	9 125.9	39.6
Gross requirements	**40 201.5**	**45 769.0**	**68 284.3**	**22 515.3**	**49.2**
Staff assessment income	3 002.9	3 473.4	5 093.9	1 620.5	46.7
Net requirements	**37 198.6**	**42 295.6**	**63 190.4**	**20 894.8**	**49.4**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**40 201.5**	**45 769.0**	**68 284.3**	**22 515.3**	**49.2**

Human resources[a]

	Military observers	*Military contingents*	*United Nations police*	*Formed police units*	*International staff*	*National staff*[b]	*Temporary positions*[c]	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Government-provided personnel*	*Civilian electoral observers*	*Total*
Office of the Director, United Nations Logistics Base											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	—	—	3	5	7	—	—	—	15
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	—	—	4	7	7	—	—	—	18
Components											
United Nations Logistics Base Support Services											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	—	—	11	54	8	—	—	—	73
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	—	—	14	70	3	—	—	—	87
Logistics Support Services											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	—	—	11	87	1	—	—	—	99
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	—	—	13	102	1	—	—	—	116
Communications and Information Technology Services											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	—	—	13	35	—	—	—	—	48
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	—	—	15	55	—	—	—	—	70
Site B, Valencia											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	6
Tenant Units											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	—	—	14	2	13	—	—	—	29
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	—	—	101	20	1	—	—	—	122
Total											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	—	—	52	183	29	—	—	—	264
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	—	—	151	256	12	—	—	—	419
Net change	—	—	—	—	**99**	**73**	**(17)**	—	—	—	**155**

[a] Represents highest level of authorized/proposed strength.
[b] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.
[c] Funded under general temporary assistance.

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section IV of the present report.

I. Objectives and planned results

A. Overall

1. The original storage facility for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations was the United Nations Supply Depot, located first in Naples and subsequently moved to Pisa, Italy. The supply depot was established in 1956 to receive assets available upon the closure of the United Nations Emergency Force. The United Nations Logistics Base has been in operation since late 1994 at Brindisi, Italy.

2. A memorandum of understanding governing the use of property and facilities at Brindisi by the United Nations was signed by the Secretary-General and the Government of Italy on 23 November 1994, and amended on 7 December 2001. A second amendment to the memorandum of understanding was signed on 4 August 2008 for the use of additional property and open space. The Base comprises 22 warehouses, 12 workshops and technical buildings, 18 office buildings, a training centre and 12 open areas.

3. The objective of the Base is to ensure efficient and effective peacekeeping operations.

4. Within that overall objective, the Base will continue to contribute during the budget period to one expected accomplishment by delivering related key outputs, as shown in the framework below. The framework reflects several functional areas of the Base. Those areas include the United Nations Logistics Base Support Services; Logistics Support Services; Communications and Information Technology Services; Site B, Valencia; and the Tenant Units (Regional Aviation Safety Office, Strategic Air Operations Centre, Integrated Training Service, Geographic Information System Centre, Engineering Standards and Design Centre, Reference Checking Unit, Surface Transport Technical Support Unit and the Standing Police Capacity).

5. The expected accomplishment would lead to the fulfilment of the objective of the Base, and the indicators of achievement show a measurement of progress to be made towards the accomplishment during the budget period. The human resources requirements have been attributed to the Base as a whole, under the support component. Variances in the number of personnel compared with the 2008/09 budget are the result of the continued expansion of the Base to provide support to field mission operations worldwide and to the Tenant Units administered within the Base's facilities, including the relocation of the Standing Police Capacity from New York to Brindisi and the establishment of Site B in Valencia, Spain.

B. Structure and initiatives

6. The functional areas of the Base include the United Nations Logistics Base Support Services, Logistics Support Services, Communications and Information Technology Services, the secondary active telecommunications facility at Site B in Valencia, Spain, the Security Office and the Tenant Units.

7. The proposed expansion of services and support provided to missions by the Base necessitates the strengthening of the existing executive management and oversight function through the creation of an Office of the Director to replace the current office of the Chief Administrative Officer. The Office would be headed by a

Director at the D-2 level, who would report directly to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support, and would be responsible for the overall activities of the Base, including the implementation of the long-term plan, the United Nations Logistics Base Support Services and security as the designated Area Security Coordinator.

8. The Director would be supported at the operational level by a Deputy Director at the D-1 level, who would be responsible for the Logistics Support Services, the Communications and Information Technology Services and the secondary active telecommunications facility at Site B, in Valencia, Spain.

Long-term plan for the Base

9. As requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/277, annex II to the present report sets out the proposed longer-term role and future development of the Logistics Base. In this context, the role of the Base is expected to expand significantly from that of the provision of logistics and support during mission start-up, liquidation, and extended information and communications technology support, to one of expanded services and continuous support to missions throughout their life cycles.

10. This enhanced support would include, in addition to existing operations:

(a) Extending current administrative and logistics support beyond mission start-up through deployment to missions;

(b) Enhancing Headquarters support functions through the establishment of new Tenant Units, such as the Standing Police Capacity and the Surface Transport Technical Support Unit;

(c) Strengthening existing functions within the Base, including enhanced conference and training facilities;

(d) Establishing a secondary active telecommunications facility at Valencia, Spain, to support peacekeeping operations;

(e) Extending the Base's support to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes.

11. In the light of the enhanced support to be provided, it is proposed to change the name of the Base to the United Nations Support Base in order to encapsulate all the support activities in which the Base will be involved.

United Nations Logistics Base Support Services

12. The United Nations Logistics Base Support Services manages and administers the Base. Under the operational control of the Department of Field Support, it administers and manages the Tenant Units. It reports directly to the Director of the Base and comprises the Personnel, Procurement, Finance, Facilities Management and Property Management Sections and the Medical Clinic.

Logistics Support Services

13. The Logistics Support Services of the Base manages strategic deployment stocks, United Nations reserve stocks and peacekeeping operations trans-shipment management, and comprises the Logistics Operations, Supply, Transport and

Engineering Sections, which all report to the Chief Logistics Officer. During the 2009/10 budget period, the Logistics Support Services will continue to focus on its current functions. They include: the management and placement of strategic deployment stocks as well as the storage, maintenance, receipt, inspection, issuance and rotation of vehicles, engineering materials and supplies, and equipment needed to start and sustain peacekeeping missions.

Communications and Information Technology Services

14. The Communications and Information Technology Services maintains and supports servers and storage systems that host the Department of Field Support applications, mission e-mail systems and critical peacekeeping operations data, including 430 users at Brindisi and 65,000 field mission accounts. The Base switches an estimated 21 million commercial and 28 million inter-mission telephone calls, routes 75 million e-mails and bridges 1,300 videoconference sessions annually. The data centre infrastructure provides resilience and redundancy in maintaining the integrity and availability of data. The secure environment provided by the data centre ensures the confidentiality of the information maintained at the Base.

15. The Communications and Information Technology Services will continue its role in supporting the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support at Headquarters and in peacekeeping missions. Following a review of the operations of the Communications and Information Technology Services in order to enhance the support provided, a restructuring of the operations of the Services is proposed. The restructuring would entail the creation of an Operations Section and the reorganization of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit into the Campus Support Unit, Technology Infrastructure Unit and Assets Management Unit, which would be smaller and more focused.

Site B: Valencia, Spain

16. The establishment of Site B in Valencia, Spain, was proposed by the Secretary-General in his report on information and communications technology security, disaster recovery and business continuity for the United Nations dated 9 October 2007 (A/62/477) to provide a highly reliable and geographically redundant secondary active telecommunications and data centre site. The General Assembly, in its resolution 63/262, approved the proposal to establish Site B in Valencia, Spain, to host a secondary active telecommunications facility in order to support peacekeeping activities. The completion of the first phase of construction of Site B is expected to take place in the 2009/10 budget period, with the Base providing administrative support for the facility.

Tenant Units

17. The Regional Aviation Safety Office was established to ensure the close monitoring and oversight of aviation safety issues in field operations. In addition to the Base, the Office serviced the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) through the establishment of an oversight programme involving on-site inspections of aviation equipment and aircraft and accident-prevention activities. During the 2009/10 period, the Office will continue to service the Base and provide safety

oversight for UNMIK, UNOMIG, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI).

18. The Strategic Air Operations Centre will serve as the central platform for the management of aircraft deployed for strategic airlift. This platform will be operated in line with the global concept of fleet utilization and segment optimization. Key tasks will comprise fleet planning for strategic airlift and monitoring and tracking of all aircraft engaged in strategic long- and short-term passenger and cargo airlift movement and inter-mission operations.

19. The Integrated Training Service will continue to deliver cross-functional training, such as the civilian predeployment training course. Following a review of the operations of the Service, it was determined that the capacity dedicated to supporting Member States through the setting of training standards, policies and guidance for the police and military had not realized savings from its relocation to Brindisi and, therefore, the five posts that make up that capacity are proposed to be relocated back to New York in order to better align them with their primary client base.

20. The Engineering Standards and Design Centre will function as the centralized centre for the development of standardized design, scales and templates for engineering works carried out in field operations. It will facilitate effective and efficient implementation of projects in the field by serving as a central repository for field operations for the access of standardized design packages, including drawings, scope of works, bills of quantities and technical specifications. A review of the Engineering Standards and Design Centre was also conducted, the results of which are included in annex III to the present report.

21. The Geographic Information System (GIS) Centre will continue to carry out substantive cartographic tasks, including the provision of topographic operational and satellite image maps and the geo-database, as well as water assessment and terrain analysis, including flooding hazards, to aid camp site selection. In addition, the Centre will develop the capacity to serve as a secure repository of all mission GIS data and establish a global geo-database in a near real-time environment for United Nations field operations. It will also continue to provide GIS start-up capacity to new and/or expanding missions and provide capacity-building to mission staff. A review of the GIS Centre was conducted, the results of which are set out in annex III to the present report.

22. The Reference Checking Unit was created as a pilot project pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/277 to perform reference checks to verify the employment and educational credentials of mission appointees and other mission staff members, up to and including the D-2 level. A review of the Unit's operations was conducted which noted the success of the pilot project and the continuing need for that capacity. Therefore, it is proposed to establish the Unit as a Tenant Unit. The review is included as part of the report on the longer-term role of the Base, as set out in annex II to the present report.

23. The establishment of the Surface Transport Technical Support Unit as a Tenant Unit is proposed to aid in the creation of a culture of excellence within the surface transport components in field operations and to increase organizational effectiveness by providing specialized training on transport logistics, in particular following the

increase in inventories and the surge in demand for specialized and high-technology vehicles. The functions of the Unit would include: the implementation of a programme to enable field mission staff to maintain and upgrade their technical and management skills in the area of surface transport logistics; to standardize the methodologies currently used in monitoring manufacturers' warranty management issues and factory recalls; and to develop a methodology to monitor and implement the codification of expendable and non-expendable inventory.

24. The Standing Police Capacity was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/1, by which the Assembly endorsed the creation of an initial operating capability for a standing police capacity to provide coherent, effective and responsive start-up capability for the policing components of United Nations peacekeeping operations and to assist existing missions through the provision of advice and expertise.

25. A comprehensive report, on the activities of the Standing Police Capacity during its first year of operation was prepared by a panel of experts, which included representatives of Member States (A/63/630), and was submitted to the General Assembly in December 2008. The report addressed issues relevant to the future of the Standing Police Capacity, including its core functions, required strength, expertise needs and the relocation of its base of operations to the Logistics Base to reflect its field focus and maximize operational effectiveness and efficiency. The Standing Police Capacity will be organized to deploy rapidly to peace operations directly from the Base in multiteam formats, return to the Base to reassemble into new team formats and retool before deploying for another field assignment. The 2009/10 budget reflects the proposal to redeploy the existing 27 posts in the Standing Police Capacity, which were previously funded through the support account for peacekeeping operations, to the Base with effect from July 2009, and an increase in the Standing Police Capacity personnel by an additional 49 posts.

C. Planning assumptions

26. The longer-term role and future development of the Base is set out in annex II to the present report and envisages a significant increase in the role of the Base from that of the provision of logistics and support during mission start-up, liquidation and extended information and communications technology support to one of expanded services and continuous support to missions throughout their life cycles.

27. The 2009/10 budget proposes a significant increase in requirements, both in human resources and operational costs, for the Tenant Units. This is reflected in the proposed increase in the staffing of the Units from 29 in 2008/09 to 122 in 2009/10, owing primarily to the relocation of 27 posts to the Standing Police Capacity, previously funded form the peacekeeping support account, from New York to Brindisi and its further expansion by 49 posts. To ensure the continuity of services performed at the Base, it is proposed to convert 21 general temporary assistance positions to national General Service posts, 19 of which relate to the Tenant Units. In addition, the budget proposes the establishment of the Surface Transport Technical Support Unit and the Reference Checking Unit as Tenant Units at the Base.

28. The use of contractual staff for extended periods presents difficulties for the operational effectiveness of the Base as a result of Italian national labour legislation.

In paragraph 27 of its report on the proposed 2008/09 budget for the Base (A/62/781/Add.12), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions took note of the issue of using contractors to meet ongoing staffing requirements and observed that under Italian law, the Base would be unable to continue that practice. After exploring various options, it was recognized that the Base would have to solve the problem by either the use of contracts with service providers or the creation of additional posts. Contracts have been secured for generic services, such as vehicle maintenance, general carpentry and architectural services, but local contractors are unable to provide services to support the 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week basis of operations of the Base or functions requiring detailed knowledge of United Nations operations and systems, except at prohibitive costs. Thirty-four additional posts are required for the performance of the core functions previously performed via the long-term staff leasing contract, which will be terminated in 2009. The budget therefore includes a proposal to convert those individual contracts to posts.

29. Furthermore, in order to ensure the continuity of services performed at the Base, it is proposed to convert 21 general temporary assistance positions to national General Service posts, 19 of which relate to the Tenant Units.

30. The implementation of the longer-term plan as set out in annex II to the present report will require a significant investment in infrastructure construction projects in the 2009/10 period. While those projects are part of a multi-year construction programme, the major projects that will be undertaken during the period include:

(a) Upgrade of the electrical network for the Base, which will enable much larger load capacities in order to meet increased demands for electricity as well as ensure compliance with technical and safety standards;

(b) Phase 1 of the construction programme (building B) as part of the satellite farm reorganization project.

31. In the area of information and communications technology, the General Assembly, in its resolution 63/262, approved the proposal to host a secondary active telecommunications facility at Valencia, Spain, to support peacekeeping activities. In the 2009/10 period, it is expected that the Base will implement the first phase of the establishment of Site B at Valencia, including the allocation of personnel resources, the provision of construction services, the assumption of facilities and infrastructure operational costs and the acquisition of communications and information technology and vehicles.

D. Regional mission cooperation

32. The Base will continue to provide support to the World Food Programme (WFP) in terms of both ground handling support to the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot centre in Brindisi and general support for the WFP training centre at San Vito, Italy. Support would also be provided to the International Computing Centre, which is located within the exclusive use area of the Base, as well as to the United Nations Office for Project Services.

33. In relation to air transportation, the Regional Aviation Safety Office will provide safety oversight for UNIFIL, UNAMI, UNFICYP, UNMIK and UNOMIG.

The Office has also assisted the United Nations Mission in Nepal in the area of aviation safety, and such assistance will continue in the 2009/10 period. The Office will continuously update the accident prevention programmes in those missions. Emergency-response-plan exercises, aimed at dealing with aircraft accidents, will be organized and conducted for missions within the region during the period.

E. Partnerships and country team coordination

34. In addition to its long-standing relationship with WFP, the Base will continue to expand its cooperation with other agencies in the hosting of inter-agency information and communications technology conferences and in providing logistics training support to the multinational Standby High Readiness Brigade for United Nations Operations. In addition, application hosting and network connectivity services are provided to several agencies, funds and programmes (the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Office at Nairobi, the United Nations Office at Vienna, the International Criminal Court, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission, the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon and the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials).

35. In the context of security and safety, and in close collaboration with the Department of Safety and Security, the Base will maintain the role of Area Security Coordinator for the exclusive use area at the Base, thereby centring responsibility for security for the United Nations entities at Brindisi under one roof. Closer ties have been forged with other United Nations agencies in the area of security, including the participation of the senior management team in meetings held every four months in Rome for all United Nations agencies. Discussions are ongoing with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes for the Logistics Base to increase the hosting of their servers and data, similar to the support currently provided to peacekeeping missions.

F. Results-based-budgeting frameworks

Component 1: support

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
1.1 Increased efficiency and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations	1.1.1 Increase the serviceability of strategic deployment stocks (2007/08: 93 per cent; 2008/09: 96 per cent; 2009/10: 97 per cent)
	1.1.2 Reduction in the average processing time, from material release order to dispatch, for UNLB contracted shipments of strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stocks (2009/10:18 days)

1.1.3 Availability of telecommunications network services (voice, data and videoconferencing) to peacekeeping operations 99.9 per cent of the time

1.1.4 Availability of global disaster recovery and business continuity services to peacekeeping operations for mail and data infrastructure 99 per cent of the time

1.1.5 Deployment of a GIS team to new and expanding missions within 30 days of the Security Council mandate (2007/08: after 30 days; 2008/09: within 30 days; 2009/10: within 30 days)

1.1.6 All aircraft operations at UNOMIG, UNIFIL, UNMIK, UNFICYP and UNAMI conducted safely and maintained at or below level 2 aviation safety indicators

1.1.7 Eligible civilian staff members recruited for field missions successfully complete predeployment induction training prior to deploying to their designated duty station (2008/09:100 per cent; 2009/10:100 per cent)

1.1.8 Reduction in security- and safety-related incidents (2007/08:7; 2008/09:35; 2009/10: 22)

1.1.9 Increase in the total number of joint service agreements with United Nations agencies (2007/08: 1; 2008/09: 4; 2009/10: 6)

1.1.10 Commissioning of an interim information and communications technology operational facility in Valencia, Spain

1.1.11 Deployment of a Standing Police Capacity team within seven days of the adoption of a Security Council resolution establishing the police component of a peacekeeping operation

Outputs

Logistics Support Services

- Receipt, inspection, maintenance, configuration and deployment of strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserves (including vehicles, generators, prefabricated buildings and related equipment, communications and information technology equipment, spare parts and expendable items)
- Provision of advice to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on the use of and access to Department of Field Support material and contracts and the logistics services of the Base at Brindisi
- 180 locally contracted minor cargo movements and 17 Headquarters-contracted major shipments to deploy strategic deployment stocks, trans-shipment and United Nations reserve materiel to peace operations
- 52 aviation movements for peace operations and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes

- Conduct of mission-wide inventory checks for all strategic deployment stocks, United Nations reserve stocks and UNLB stocks

- Implementation of safe-driving training to improve skill levels and enhance the safety and security of staff and assets

Communications and Information Technology Services

- Maintenance and operation of a communications network comprising of 5 Earth station hubs, 18 telephone exchanges, 12 transponders, 2 videoconferencing bridges and 19 high-end routers to provide voice, fax, video and data communications to peace operations and Headquarters 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

- Provision of 53 E1 inter-mission voice lines, 46 commercial integrated services digital network E1 voice lines, 132 satellite inter-mission links, 11 leased lines, 2 E3 Internet data links and 17 videoconferencing links

- Maintenance and operation of the Base's communications operating systems, including 22 PABX, 620 telephone extensions, 8 base station radios, 2 repeaters, 10 mobile radios, 95 digital enhanced cordless telecommunications handheld transceivers and 100 Cisco desk phones

- Maintenance and operation of information technology equipment comprising 485 desktop computers, 84 laptop computers, 94 printers, 3 plotters, 28 servers, 32 digital senders, 43 switches, 2 routers, 2 firewalls, 500 servers, 186 Cisco network devices, 3 Stone soft firewalls, 29 electromagnetic compatibility high-end data-storage systems and 10 electromagnetic compatibility data storage network devices

- Provision of hosting, maintenance and help desk support services for all peace operations, covering 5 centrally hosted applications (asset management, procurement system, 51,000 web mailboxes, 19 websites and 336 Lotus Notes replications)

- Provision of storage for production data and mail database for disaster recovery and business continuity purposes (360 terabyte data-storage capacity)

Site B, Valencia

- Completion of phase 1 of the establishment of Site B, including the construction of the data centre and satellite communications infrastructure

United Nations Logistics Base Support Services

- Maintenance of 52 hardwall buildings (42,684 m^2), 10 soft-wall structures (4,000 m^2), 60 prefab container units in 8 buildings and 415,500 m^2 of open area, including 86,280 m^2 of outdoor storage space and 91,100 m^2 of roads and parking areas, through the management of 31 contractual services and utilities, including 11 building maintenance services, 7 grounds maintenance services, 9 supply blanket purchase agreements and 4 utility contracts

- Provision of security services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, within the Base, including through the operation of video surveillance of Base premises and holdings

- Completion of the Base security plan in accordance with the security policy of the Department of Safety and Security

Tenant Units

Regional Aviation Safety Office

- 5 aviation accident prevention programmes updated (UNLB, UNOMIG, UNAMI, UNFICYP, UNIFIL)
- 4 aviation emergency response plans updated (UNLB, UNOMIG, UNFICYP, UNIFIL)
- 12 aviation safety assistance visits to UNOMIG (3), UNFICYP (3), UNIFIL (3) and UNAMI (3)
- Organization of 12 aviation safety council meetings (UNOMIG (3), UNFICYP (3), UNIFIL (3), and UNLB (3))
- 16 risk assessment reports on mission aviation operations
- 12 aviation safety newsletters (aviation safety awareness information) distributed to UNOMIG, UNFICYP, UNIFIL, UNMIK and UNAMI
- 2 carrier survey visits to air operators based in the region
- 6 carrier assessments of short-term chartered aircraft (UNMIK (2), UNIFIL (2), and UNFICYP (2))

Strategic Air Operations Centre

- Management, control and monitoring of strategic air support provided to peacekeeping missions
- Implementation of a global fleet tracking system for air operations within United Nations missions
- Implementation of a control system for the utilization of aviation fuel
- Provision of aeronautical guidance and meteorological advice to all Department of Peacekeeping Operations field operations through the issuance of individual reports on all flights
- Assessment of a global integrated fleet management concept to support the aviation needs of peacekeeping operations worldwide

Integrated Training Service

- Implementation of 4 training sessions on standard operating procedures for peacekeeping operations
- Provision of technical training on oversight, guidance and assistance to all peacekeeping and special political missions that are supported by the operations of the Department of Field Support
- Conduct of 25 civilian predeployment training courses for 900 newly recruited international civilian staff members

Geographic Information System Centre

- Provision of analysis for the assessment of groundwater resources and terrain provided to UNAMID, MINURCAT and other field operations as required
- Topographic maps and geo-databases produced for UNAMID, including 80 map sheets at 1 to 50,000 scale
- Provision of global geo-visualization data, including through United Nations geo-database systems, United Nations Earth enterprise system and United Nations image library and catalogue system, to all field operations

- Maintenance of a secured repository for the United Nations geo-database, including backup and replica, and for the United Nations Earth and image library
- Conduct of 4 GIS training courses for peacekeeping missions
- Provision of GIS technical advice and support to peacekeeping missions through site visits to field operations and telephone/Internet support

Engineering Standards and Design Centre

- Development of 10 standard camp facility design templates
- Development of 8 statements of work for engineering construction requirements
- Management of an online engineering database and library that is accessible to all missions
- 2 mission visits to advise on engineering requirements
- Provision of advice to 6 missions on engineering design provided through an online engineer database and workspace, online groove community access and mission visits, if required

Standing Police Capacity

- Establishment and strengthening of policing components in two new and/or expanding mid-sized missions
- Development of 3 policy papers and guidelines for national police and other law enforcement agencies on management, administration and operational procedures and police reform
- Provision of assistance to police components in 5 existing peacekeeping operations for up to 3 months on activities such as reform, advice and training, as well as corrective activities in support of national law enforcement capacity-building

Surface Transport Technical Support Unit

- Provision of transport technical support solutions and recommendations for corrective action in real time to all Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Political Affairs missions
- Conduct the review and categorization of 220 generic asset descriptions and codification of more than 24,000 non-expendable assets of the Surface Transport Section
- Monitor manufacturers' warranty management issues and factory recalls for 45 systems contracts in place with various vendors

Reference Checking Unit

- Check references of 1,500 internal and external candidates for recruitment for vacancies in peace operations in the following languages: Arabic, English, French, Spanish and Russian

External factors

Suppliers will provide goods and services as contracted

Table 1
Human resources: Office of the Director, United Nations Logistics Base

	International staff										
Civilian staff	*USG-ASG*	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Office of the Director, United Nations Logistics Base[a]											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	3	—	6
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	4	4	—	8
Net change	—	**1**	**(1)**	—	**1**	—	—	**1**	**1**	—	**2**
Security Office											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**1**	—	**1**
Approved temporary positions[b] 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
Proposed temporary positions[b] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, Security Office											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	9
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	10
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**1**	—	**1**
Total											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	5	—	8
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	4	7	—	11
Net change	—	**1**	**(1)**	—	**1**	—	—	**1**	**2**	—	**3**
Total positions											
Approved temporary positions[b] 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
Proposed temporary positions[b] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
Net change, positions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, Office of the Director											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	12	—	15
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	4	14	—	18
Net change, Office of the Director	—	**1**	**(1)**	—	**1**	—	—	**1**	**2**	—	**3**

[a] Includes the Legal Officer.
[b] Funded under general temporary assistance.

Office of the Director, United Nations Logistics Base

International staff: net increase of 1 post

National staff: increase of 1 post

36. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Office of the Director: reclassification of a post from the D-1 to the D-2 level; creation of two posts (1 D-1 and 1 national General Service); and redeployment of two posts (1 P-4 post to the Supply Section and 1 Field Service post from the Finance Section).

37. The Base's functions in providing support to field operations, Tenant Units, Headquarters clients, offices away from Headquarters, and United Nations agencies have changed considerably from its initial focus on receiving equipment from downsizing missions and serving as a communications hub for the missions established at the time. The number of missions has increased, and consequently the level of support provided by the Base has grown in parallel. The 2009/10 budget for the Base is accompanied by a long-term plan which proposes a strengthening of existing core functions, a substantial increase in the scope of operations, including a number of new initiatives in support of field operations and a commensurate increase in the Base's administrative support functions. The increasing support provided to field operations has required the Base to widen its focus and expand from the provision of material support to start-up missions to the provision of support to missions throughout the duration of their operation. The proposed initiatives also include an enlargement of the training and conference section, logistics training and certification programme, and the provision of both remote and on-site procurement support to start-up missions. The Base intends to augment existing ad hoc efforts and establish a supplementary capacity to the technical and administrative support teams which deploy to new, expanding and established missions that are in need of short-term assistance with specific projects for which missions will not establish core posts. A core logistics function of the Base is the management of the strategic deployment stocks, from which items valued at $303 million have been shipped to 42 missions since 2002, and the management of the United Nations reserve inventories. These stocks and reserve inventories have increased substantially over the past few years, and further increases are envisaged in the future. Furthermore, the Base has become the telecommunications hub for the field operations of the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Political Affairs. The number of personnel performing communications and information technology functions at the Base has increased from 24 to 201, which represents a 738 per cent increase from 2002/03 to 2007/08.

38. In this context, the General Assembly, in its resolution 63/262, approved the establishment of a secondary active telecommunications facility at Site B, Valencia, Spain. This facility will require constant support and monitoring during the construction phase as well as during its subsequent operations. In order to ensure the effective management of the broadening span of operational and strategic tasks required of the Base within the strategic framework of peacekeeping operations, it is proposed that the existing executive management and oversight function be strengthened through the creation of an Office of the Director to replace the current Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. The Office would be headed by a Director at the D-2 level, who would report directly to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support and would be responsible for the overall activities of the Base, including the implementation of the long-term plan, Base

support services and for security in his or her capacity of designated Area Security Coordinator.

39. The Director would be supported at the operational level by a Deputy Director at the D-1 level, who would be responsible for Logistics Support Services, Communications and Information Technology Services and the secondary active telecommunications facility in Site B, Valencia.

40. In addition, it is proposed to redeploy one Administrative Officer post (P-4) from the Office of the Director to the Supply Section in order to regularize an existing arrangement and reflect the actual work being done under the appropriate management structures and oversight.

41. In line with established practice and the requirement to provide the Director with direct support in the implementation and oversight of the budget and the long-term plan, it is proposed that the budget capacity currently within the Finance and Budget Section be moved to the Office of the Director. As such one Field Service post is proposed for redeployment and redesignated as a Budget Assistant post to reflect the actual duties performed. This redeployment will regularize an existing temporary arrangement.

42. The liaison cell in the Office of the Director undertakes all protocol and liaison work with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Defence of Italy and the Italian Air Force in support of mission staff, their dependants and other individuals, such as experts and consultants invited to the Base. With the growth of the Base, the number of international staff is expected to increase substantially. The workload of the liaison cell will be further exacerbated by the increase in the number of personnel expected to attend training courses at the Base and, as such, an additional post of Administrative Clerk (national General Service) is proposed. The incumbent of the proposed post would ensure efficient and effective liaison support, which includes mission visa requests and foreign visas on behalf of staff members travelling to missions or other locations for official purposes; for staff members and their dependants assigned to the Base; trainees coming to the Base to attend, for example, training courses, conferences and workshops; staff who do not hold a valid laissez-passer; consultants or experts on mission hired by the Base or United Nations agencies for specific projects; requests for Italian identification cards; and registration of personal vehicles on behalf of international staff, requests for importation of vehicles belonging to international staff, and requests for value added tax exemptions for vehicles, purchased by international staff.

Security Office

National staff: increase of 1 post

43. The redeployment of the Safety Assistant post from the Office of the Logistics Operations Section is proposed in conjunction with the establishment of the Safety and Security Office in 2008/09. The incumbent of the Safety Assistant post, under the direct supervision of the Head of Security and overall supervision of the Director of the United Nations Logistics Base, will monitor safety issues in the workplace and provide guidance on the improvement of safety at the Base. The redeployment will mirror the established norm at the Department of Safety and Security, which combines safety and security under one unit. The functions performed will remain unchanged.

Table 2
Human resources: United Nations Logistics Base Support Services

	International staff										
Civilian staff	*USG-ASG*	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
Office of the Chief, United Nations Logistics Base Support Services											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	9	—	12
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	9	—	11
Net change	—	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	(1)	—	—	(1)
Personnel Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	8	—	10
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	10	—	13
Net change	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	7	—	8
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Net change	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	—	(1)	(5)	—	(6)
Total, Personnel Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	15	—	18
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	12	—	15
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(3)	—	(3)
Procurement Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	9	—	11
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	10	—	13
Net change	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Facilities Management Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	12	—	13
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	21	—	22
Net change	—	—	—	(1)	1	—	—	—	9	—	9
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total, Facilities Management Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	12	—	13
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	22	—	23
Net change	—	—	—	(1)	1	—	—	—	10	—	10

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Property Management Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	13	—	15
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	15	—	18
Net change	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Medical Clinic											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	4
Net change	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Total posts											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	4	3	4	—	—	11	54	—	65
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	5	5	4	—	—	14	70	—	84
Net change, posts	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	16	—	19
Total positions											
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	7	—	8
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Net change, positions	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	—	(1)	(4)	—	(5)
Total, United Nations Logistics Base Support Services											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	4	4	4	—	—	12	61	—	73
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	5	5	4	—	—	14	73	—	87
Net change, United Nations Logistics Base Support Services	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	12	—	14

[a] Funded under general temporary assistance.

Office of the Chief, United Nations Logistics Base Support Services

44. The following changes to the staffing establishment of the Office of the Chief are proposed: redeployment of two posts (national General Service) (1 to the Personnel Section and 1 from the Property Management Section).

45. With the reorganization of the Base in the 2007/08 period, the Office of the Chief was strengthened through the creation of an Administrative Assistant post (national General Service). The creation of the post was offset by the simultaneous abolishment of a Personnel Assistant post in the Personnel Section. It was envisaged that the incumbent of the Administrative Assistant post would have a strong background in human resources, as the primary task of the post was to provide personnel administration expertise for the logistics support services contracts that the Base had entered into. However, actual experience has shown that given the well-defined labour laws in Italy and the fact that the contractor assumed most of the personnel administrative functions of the contract, the level of expertise was no longer required. An increase in the workload requirement of the Personnel Section

meant that the current staffing capacity was insufficient to meet demand. To address the staffing challenge, the Administrative Assistant post was loaned from the Office of the Chief to the Personnel Section, as a temporary measure. It is therefore proposed to redeploy the Administrative Assistant post from the Office of the Chief to the Personnel Section.

46. Furthermore, there was a requirement for a capacity in the Office of the Chief to provide budgetary monitoring assistance for the accounts for which the Chief, United Nations Logistics Base Support Services, served as a certifying officer. These included administrative services (excluding personnel) and tenant unit accounts. To address the staffing challenge, the Administrative Assistant post in the Property Management Section was loaned to the Office of the Chief as a temporary measure for the performance of duties associated with budget monitoring. It is proposed to redeploy the Administrative Assistant post from the Property Management Section to the Office of the Chief.

Finance Section

International staff: decrease of 1 post

47. As noted in paragraph 41, it is proposed to redeploy the Finance Assistant post (Field Service) from the Finance Unit to the Office of the Director, United Nations Logistics Base, to support the Director in the implementation and oversight of the Base's budget and long-term plan.

Personnel Section

International staff: increase of 3 posts and decrease of 1 position

National staff: decrease of 2 posts and net decrease of 5 positions

48. The following changes to the staffing establishment of the Personnel Section are proposed: abolishment of eight positions (1 P-3 and 7 national General Service, of which 6 relate to the Reference Checking Unit, which it is proposed become a Tenant Unit); creation of two posts (1 P-3 and 1 national General Service); creation of 2 national General Service positions; and redeployment of 1 national General Service post from the Office of the Chief, Support Services.

49. A review of the operations of the Reference Checking Unit is set out in paragraphs 142-145 and in the longer-term plan as set out in annex II to the present report. Given the continuing need for the functions of the Unit, it is proposed for the 2009/10 period that the Unit be established as a Tenant Unit and that the six general temporary assistance positions of Recruitment Assistant under the Personnel Section be established as national General Service posts under the Reference Checking Tenant Unit.

50. In recent years the Personnel Section has experienced a significant increase in its workload, a trend which is expected to continue into the future with proposed staffing increases. The increased workload will be exacerbated by an increase in the number of trainees attending workshops and training courses at the Base. In addition to administering staff approved for 2009/10, including recruitment, training and career development, the Section oversees and administers the travel and entitlements of personnel who attend training, workshops and conferences at the Base. In this context, there is a requirement to strengthen the travel function within

the Section to effectively coordinate and manage the administration of travel-related activities, including the processing of travel authorizations, requests for and evaluation of bids, process updates for United Nations laissez-passer and coordination with liaison offices for visas. In the light of those requirements, and the anticipated increase in the volume of activities being performed by the Section, it is proposed that the positions of Human Resources Officer (P-3) and Human Resources Assistant (national General Service) approved under general temporary assistance be established as posts.

51. As noted in paragraph 45 above, it is proposed that the post of Administrative Assistant be redeployed from the Office of the Chief to the Personnel Section.

52. Furthermore, it is also proposed that the travel-related functions of the Section be strengthened through the establishment of two general temporary assistance positions of Human Resource Assistant (national General Service) to perform the functions noted above.

Procurement Section

International staff: increase of 1 post

National staff: increase of 1 post

53. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Procurement Section: creation of two posts (1 P-3 and 1 national General Service).

54. The Procurement Section has experienced an increase in its workload, resulting largely from the growth in the activities of the Communications and Information Technology Services in providing support to peacekeeping missions. Overall purchase orders issued by the Procurement Section have increased by 21 per cent in number and 75 per cent in value from 2005/06 to 2007/08 and are expected to undergo a further substantial increase in the 2009/10 period. In addition, the activities of the Tenant Units now exceed the capacity of existing Base resources to effectively support them, both in terms of volume as well as specialized knowledge of requirements. Further growth is also anticipated as the long-term plan is implemented, including the establishment of Site B at Valencia, Spain. The Section currently comprises one P-4, one Field Service and nine national General Service staff. Ensuring effective controls and oversight over the procurement function has been identified as an organizational high-risk area, and the requirement to manage the expected surge in workload further reinforces the need for those controls and oversight mechanisms. In order to adequately support the growth in procurement activity of the Section, heighten the efficiency of activities, ensure that the implementation of the long-term plan is not adversely affected and support increased procurement delegations for the Base, it is proposed that the posts of Procurement Officer (P-3) and Procurement Assistant (national General Service) be established.

55. The establishment of the Procurement Officer post is proposed in order to strengthen managerial capacity, ensure ongoing operational functionality and increase efficiency of the Section through delegation of authority from the Chief Procurement Officer. The incumbent of the post would assume duties as Deputy Chief of the Procurement Section, oversee the complex procurement requirements of the Communications and Information Technology Services, and would also serve as Officer-in-Charge of the Section in the absence of the Chief Procurement Officer.

56. In the light of the increase in the number of purchase orders, both in terms of value and volume, the services of one additional buyer are required. The Procurement Assistant (national General Service) would be assigned to the Support Unit of the Communications and Information Technology Services and would perform the functions of a buyer to procure goods and services of lesser complexity and value than those to be managed by the Procurement Officer.

Facilities Management Section

National staff: net increase of 9 posts and increase of 1 position

57. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Facilities Management Section: creation of seven national General Service posts, creation of one national General Service position; and redeployment of four posts (1 P-3 post to the Engineering Section, 2 national General Service posts from the Engineering Section and 1 Field Service post from the Supply Section).

58. Following the reorganization of the Base in 2007/08, a post of Engineer at the P-3 level was assigned to the Facilities Management Section, as it was expected that the Section would address campus engineering issues and undertake maintenance and restoration. The establishment of the Engineer post was a temporary measure to address the requirement to define and separate engineering functions from facilities management functions. However, following a review of activities, the Facilities Management Section will not address campus engineering issues, as was previously envisaged. Owing to the continued expansion of the Base, the Engineering Section will remain as a technical service, and the Facilities Management Section will oversee all maintenance for the campus. Accordingly, it is proposed that the post of Engineer (P-3) be redeployed from the Facilities Management Section to the Engineering Section. There would be no change in the functions to be performed by the incumbent of the post.

59. In order to ensure that sufficient managerial capacity is retained in the Section and to maximize the use of existing resources, it is also proposed to redeploy one post of Facilities and Management Officer (Field Service) from the Supply Section. The incumbent of the post would serve as the Chief of the Facilities Management Section and facilitate the redeployment of the P-3 post of Engineer proposed in paragraph 58 above without requiring an overall increase in the staffing complement.

60. Following the realignment of the functions of the Mail and Pouch Unit under the Property Management Section, the duties of receptionist and mail clerk have been performed by an individual contractor. The workload in the Unit has increased in recent years and is expected to increase further with the expansion of the Base and the proposed increase of the staffing complement from 264 to 419. In order to meet this increase in capacity, it is proposed to create a Receptionist/Mail Clerk post (national General Service) in order to ensure the proper functioning of the Mail and Pouch Unit and for the performance of switchboard and reception functions for the main office at the Base.

61. The Facilities Management Section will commence implementation of the Base building maintenance plan in 2009/10, a consequence of which will be an increase in the financial resources required for maintenance-related goods and services. Owing to the volume of certification activity carried out by the Chief,

Logistics Support Services and the increasing workload of his Office, there will be a pressing need in the Facilities Management Section during the 2009/10 period for human resources with budget experience at the General Service level. As such, a proposal has been made to temporarily reinforce the staffing of the Section through the establishment of a general temporary assistance position of Administrative Clerk (national General Service). The incumbent of the position would monitor and provide support to the Chief of the Section in the implementation of a budget in excess of $2 million and would also be responsible for the provision of administrative support to the Section.

62. The Building Maintenance Unit of the Facilities Management Section manages the warehouse of the Section, processes store-related requirements, administers the supply contracts of the Section and prepares statements of work for the purchase of materials and equipment that are not already under contract. The Unit has experienced a growth in its activities and a significant increase in workload of the store, which are expected to continue in line with the implementation of the building maintenance plan and the planned improvements to the Base and its infrastructure. Between the 2006/07 and 2008/09 periods, the store has experienced a 112 per cent growth in work orders, an 83 per cent growth in the number of receiving and inspection reports actioned, and a 116 per cent increase in inventory items. For the 2009/10 period, those activities are expected to increase by 18, 34 and 32 per cent, respectively. There are currently two national General Service personnel assigned to the store, with additional personnel resources required to perform logistic and supply functions. Accordingly, it is proposed to establish a post of Storekeeper (national General Service) in the Building Maintenance Unit. The incumbent of the post would receive, codify, stock, label and issue material and assets in line with relevant rules and regulations and would also assist the Supervisor in identifying and processing material and assets for write-off.

63. It is proposed to establish the post of Supervisor (national General Service) of the Regular Maintenance and Quick Response Units. Those Units are responsible for managing the complete range of maintenance regimes for 53 buildings, 12 softwall structures and all open areas of the Base, including the logistics outdoor storage space. The arrival of the new Tenant Units will further increase the maintenance workload. The Tenant Units will be housed in the additional buildings and open areas acquired upon the approval of addendum II to the Implementation Agreement. As the building maintenance plan is implemented, there will be increased responsibility placed on the two units to provide support to all of the managed buildings on the Base, its infrastructure and the surrounding grounds. The incumbent of the Supervisor post would be under the direct supervision of the Chief of the Building Maintenance Unit and would be responsible for supervising the Regular Maintenance and Quick Response Units, the management and implementation of the Base's maintenance plan and other functions as assigned.

64. It is also proposed to redeploy two Facilities Management Assistant posts (national General Service) from the Engineering Section to the Building Maintenance Unit of the Facilities Management Section. The incumbent of one of the Facilities Management Assistant posts would be responsible for the technical development, implementation and update of the building maintenance plan and for the expansion of the plan to encompass services and areas not covered during the initial implementation period. The incumbent of the second post would be responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of technical

drawings for each of the Base's buildings and exclusive use areas, including, but not limited to, sewage, drainage, electrical and other infrastructure-type utilities. Those functions are of particular importance to support the various infrastructure improvement initiatives envisaged under the Base's long-term plan. A secondary function of the incumbent of the post would be to properly account for office and workspace allocation of the Base areas, to coordinate data with the Security and Safety Office and the Property Management Unit and to provide support to the Facilities Review Committee and the Safety Council.

65. In view of the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which have been undertaking functions that are of an ongoing nature and which cannot be contracted out. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert four independent contractor positions to Facilities Management Assistant posts (national General Service), the incumbents of which perform functions relating to plumbing, electrical maintenance, masonry and operation of heavy machinery.

Property Management Section

International staff: increase of 1 post

National staff: net increase of 2 posts

66. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Property Management Section: creation of four posts (1 P-2 and 3 national General Service); and redeployment of one national General Service post to the Office of the Chief, UNLB Support Services.

67. It is proposed to establish an Archives and Records Management Unit within the Property Management Section. The records produced and used by the Base are a valuable resource to the Organization as they provide evidence of its business transactions, organizational structure, decisions, policies and procedures. Those resources must be managed properly to ensure that accurate, reliable and complete records are available when and where they are required/needed, to ensure that records of long-term value are preserved and that obsolete records are systematically destroyed in accordance with United Nations retention policies. This is particularly true during mission audits, in cases of arbitration and investigation, and in situations where historical records need to be retrieved. At present the Base does not have an archiving capacity and, as a consequence, documents are stored in sea containers throughout the Base. Exposure to weather elements has led to some documents being damaged and, as they are not catalogued or digitized, the data is not easy to retrieve. The proposed unit would have adequate capacity to meet the current and future needs of the Base and would offer the potential, should it be agreed, to store archives from other missions supported by the Department of Field Support. The functions of the proposed unit would include establishing policies and setting standards, undertaking the transfer of records from departments and offices, archiving non-current records that are more than three years old, developing procedures to facilitate the appropriate identification, handling and management of sensitive records to prevent their unauthorized use, ensuring that records that are of archival or continuing value are transferred to the custody of Archives and Records Management Section in New York, and disposing of the Base's non-current records that have no further administrative, fiscal, legal, historical or other informational

value. It is proposed to staff the unit through the establishment of the posts of Archivist (P-2) and Document Management Assistant (national General Service).

68. Owing to a lack of capacity, the Base is currently unable to process write-off requests and dispose of written-off property in a timely manner. The number of asset write-off cases processed during the last five financial years averaged 64 per cent of the total write-off cases processed, and the value of which exceeds $20 million. In addition, the number of assets pending disposal far exceed the number of disposed assets, which has resulted in a long write-off and disposal lead-time. On average, over 1,500 non-expendable assets are required to be stored and controlled until final disposal; however, due to the long lead-time, the potential sale value of assets declines. It is proposed to reinforce the staffing of the Property Management Section through the establishment of a Claims Clerk post (national General Service). The incumbent of the post would be responsible for processing asset write-off cases. The functions of the incumbent would also include managing case files and documentation, ensuring that the required justifications are submitted and are in line with rules and regulations, electronic processing of asset write-off cases, providing clarifications on asset write-off cases when required and processing of routine claims cases, reporting on claims activities, and acting as alternate Local Property Survey Board secretary, if required.

69. As at 30 June 2008, the Base had over $5 million worth of expendable assets pending write-off and disposal. It is proposed to reinforce the staffing of the Section through the establishment of the post of Property Disposal Clerk (national General Service). The functions of the incumbent of the post would include preparing disposal cases, processing data in the Galileo write-off disposal module, the creation of lots depending on commodity and disposal recommendation, arranging and preparation of sale lots, collection and categorization of property pending write-off, overseeing the destruction of written-off property, and the collection, storage and disposal of hazardous material in line with local regulations.

70. It is proposed to formally redeploy the post of Administrative Assistant from the Property Management Section to the Office of the Chief, United Nations Logistics Base Support Services.

Medical Clinic

International staff: increase of 1 post

National staff: increase of 2 posts

71. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Medical Clinic: creation of three posts (1 P-4 and 2 national General Service).

72. It is proposed to augment the staffing of the Medical Clinic in order to provide medical training and care, including health consultations and vaccinations, as the existing medical support arrangement is not sufficient to provide the level of services required. The additional support is required as a result of the growth in the number of personnel at the Base by approximately 59 per cent, as well as the increase in the number of staff members and trainees attending induction courses. The Medical Clinic is a walk-in facility established to address first treatment health issues for Base staff members and their dependants, for contractual staff, including staff of the International Computing Centre, UNOPS, Trygen and WFP, and for participants in training programmes at the Base. The Clinic is currently staffed by

three local doctors on a part-time, contractual basis. The doctors are assisted by a full-time Nurse (national General Service staff) and a part-time Administrative Assistant (individual contractor). The Clinic provides basic medical support, maintains medical records and documentation, conducts entry and periodic examinations, and provides travel medicine and advisory services (vaccinations and travel kits, preventative medicine and health promotion). The Clinic is expected to respond to United Nations emergencies in the geographical vicinity of the Base and to provide educational courses. It is anticipated that the workload of the Clinic will substantially increase in line with the expansion of planned activities of the Base for the coming years. Evidence of the increase in the workload of the Medical Clinic is supported by the number of medical consultations performed (2,677 in 2006/07 and 3,102 in 2007/08). The effectiveness of the local physicians on part-time contracts has been hampered by their limited availability, lack of knowledge of United Nations medical procedures and policies, and language difficulties.

73. In view of the above, it is proposed to establish a post of Medical Officer (P-4), the incumbent of which would replace the part-time medical professionals. The recruitment of a Medical Officer would increase the on-Base coverage of the Medical Clinic from 4 to 8 hours per day and would allow the standard administrative practices of the United Nations to be implemented. In addition, the incumbent of the Medical Officer post would carry out medical administrative functions, such as certification of sick leave, and would perform occupational health duties and review medical claims that could not otherwise be carried out by contracted medical professionals. There are limitations in the use of local facilities, such as availability and access to English-speaking doctors and medical personnel, and patient confidentiality is compromised when international staff require the assistance of translators. There are risks present when the translation of medical terms and conditions are performed by non-professionals.

74. It is proposed to establish an additional post of Nurse (national General Service). The workload of the Clinic carried out by the Nurse has increased and requires support and reinforcement through the establishment of one additional post of Nurse, the incumbent of which would perform similar duties. The most critical duties are owing to the current high level of requirements of the Base staff and tenants as well as personnel attending training courses and would include screening of walk-in patients, provision of initial medical treatment, including dispensing medicine and taking instrument readings, provision of travel advice according to mission destination, scheduling and administration of vaccinations, responding to emergency calls and assisting with access to emergency medical treatment, providing support for public health-related issues and training programmes, acting as liaison on routine matters requiring the evaluation and approval of the Medical Services Division, and liaising with area clinics and hospitals, as required.

75. The Medical Clinic currently employs an Administrative Clerk on a part-time basis. It is proposed to establish the post of Administrative Clerk (national General Service) on a full-time basis. The establishment of such a post instead of the use of a consultant on a temporary basis is recommended in order to ensure continuity and the standardization of services. In addition to managing the reception function in the Clinic, the incumbent of the Administrative Clerk post would be responsible for registering new patients, electronic archiving and setting up of databases of medications, vaccination records, travel kits and statistics.

Table 3
Human resources: Logistics Support Services

	International staff										
Civilian staff	*USG-ASG*	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	*Subtotal*	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
Office of the Chief, Logistics Support Services											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Logistics Operations Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	25	—	28
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	28	—	31
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Transport Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	22	—	25
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	4	26	—	30
Net change	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	—	5
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, Transport Section											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	23	—	26
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	4	27	—	31
Net change	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	—	5
Supply Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	15	—	17
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	21	—	23
Net change	—	—	1	—	(1)	—	—	—	6	—	6
Engineering Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	23	—	25
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	25	—	28
Net change	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Total posts											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	4	1	6	—	—	11	87	—	98
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	5	2	6	—	—	13	102	—	115
Net change, posts	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	15	—	17

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Total positions											
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Net change, positions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, Logistics Support Services											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	4	1	6	—	—	11	88	—	99
Proposed 2009/10	—	—	5	2	6	—	—	13	103	—	116
Net change, Logistics Support Services	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	15	—	17

[a] Funded under general temporary assistance.

Logistics Operations Section

National staff: net increase of 3 posts

76. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Logistics Operations Section: creation of four national General Service posts; and redeployment of one national General Service post to the Security Office.

77. The receipt and inspection capacity of the Logistics Operations Section conducts quality control on all materiel received at the Base, including strategic deployment stocks and mission trans-shipments, with the use of contractors proving critical in managing the increased workload. However, given the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert to posts former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which have been performing functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert four independent contractor positions to Receiving and Inspection Clerk posts (national General Service).

78. It is proposed to redeploy the post of Safety Assistant (national General Service) from the Logistics Operations Section to the Security Office to mirror the norm established by the Department of Safety and Security, which combines safety and security under one unit.

Transport Section

International staff: increase of 1 post

National staff increase of 4 posts

79. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Transport Section: creation of five posts (1 Field Service and 4 national General Service).

80. The transport training function was delegated to the Base two years ago and has developed into a core activity of the Transport Section. Those activities consist of the conduct of approximately 25 training courses per year, primarily at the Base, with some courses also being hosted by field operations of the Department of

Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs as well as at the dedicated training or support centres of various vehicle manufacturers and suppliers or the providers of specialist training services around the world. It is proposed to establish the post of Transport Training Officer (Field Service), the incumbent of which would serve as the focal point for development and implementation of the Department of Field Support global surface transport training programme, which is organized by the Transport Section of the Base on behalf of the Transportation and Movement Service, Logistics Support Division, Department of Field Support in New York. Under the supervision of the Chief Transport Officer at the Base, the functions of the incumbent of the Transport Training Officer post would include coordinating training requirements with various United Nations field operations and the Surface Transport Section in New York, ensuring that courses on offer satisfy the requirements of the missions and the personal development goals of the individual staff members concerned. On a daily basis, he or she would ensure the maintenance and update of the Transportation and Movement Service training website, liaise with participants and provide guidance regarding distance study materials, develop and plan new courses in conjunction with mission chief transport officers and monitor the overall effectiveness of the training programme.

81. It is also proposed that a post of Training Assistant (national General Service) be established, the incumbent of which would provide support to the Transport Training Officer and provide administrative and coordination support to the global transport training activities assigned to the Section. The functions of the Training Assistant post would include maintaining and updating the Transportation and Movement Service training website, liaising with participants regarding the logistical arrangements of the courses for which they have been nominated, acting as a focal point for the collection and collation of distance study materials submitted by course participants, and maintaining a detailed register of course participants. In the past, the functions to be performed by the incumbents of the proposed posts were undertaken on an ad hoc basis through sharing the workload among the Transport Stores Unit, the Mission Support Unit and the Office of the Chief of Transport. That arrangement was neither sustainable nor an effective way of fulfilling the expectations of the missions. While the current arrangement made it possible to deliver numerous training activities, it must be addressed in a more focused and dedicated manner in order to cater to missions' requirements. The UNLB Transport Section currently plays an active role in delivering a segment of the core induction training organized by the Integrated Training Service, in particular with reference to road safety training, which should be enhanced further.

82. In addition, and in view of the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert to posts former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which have been performing functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert three independent contractor positions to Transport Assistant (Store Worker) posts (national General Service staff).

Supply Section

National staff: net increase of 6 posts

83. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Supply Section: creation of six national General Service posts; and redeployment of

two posts (1 P-4 post from the Office of the Director and 1 Field Service post to the Facilities Management Section).

84. The Supply Section is responsible for the warehousing, storage and maintenance of strategic deployment stocks, United Nations reserve stocks, medical and Base inventories, materiel-handling operations for Base shipments, and mission trans-shipments. Owing to the increased workload in the Section and the requirement to strengthen management and oversight, it is proposed that a post of Chief of Section be established at the P-4 level. The functions of the post would include: formulating and overseeing supply support operations for the provision of supply services and supplies required by missions and the Base; warehousing and maintenance, including storage and maintenance of strategic deployment stocks, United Nations reserve and Logistics Base inventories currently valued at approximately $25 million; coordinating among senior management, programmes and funds to establish priorities and develop comprehensive supply support plans; liaising with the Procurement Section in the resolution of contractual implementation disputes; and developing business plans for the Section. In order to maximize the use of existing resources and as set out in paragraph 40 above, it is proposed to redeploy the post of Administrative Officer (P-4) from the Office of the Director in order to accommodate this new requirement. This will allow the strengthening of management capacity in the Supply Section while minimizing the need for an overall increase in resources.

85. It is also proposed that one post of Facilities and Management Officer (Field Service) be redeployed to the Facilities Management Section.

86. Furthermore, in the light of the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert to posts former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which have been performing functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert six independent contractor positions to posts (national General Service), the incumbents of which would perform the functions of Inventory and Supply Assistants (2), Storekeepers (3) and Supply Assistant (1).

Engineering Section

International staff: increase of 1 post

National staff: net increase of 2 posts

87. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Engineering Section: creation of four posts (national General Service); and redeployment of three posts (1 P-3 from the Facilities Management Section and 2 national General Service posts to the Facilities Management Section).

88. As noted and justified in paragraph 58 above, the redeployment of the post of Engineer, (P-3), from the Facilities Management Section to the Engineering Section is proposed.

89. The Engineering Section will be responsible for the upgrade of the electrical network system of the Base, which will be a critical element in the implementation of the long-term plan, including the provision of support to the operations of an increased number of facilities and machinery. The Base currently has a capacity of 2.5 megawatts, which is expected to be increased to a 6 megawatt capacity. In order

to effectively implement that project, the existing capacity needs to be strengthened, and it is proposed that two posts of Engineering Assistant (Electrical Designer and Electrical Assistant) (national General Service) be established.

90. The posts would be established in the Engineering/Planning and Projects Unit and would come under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer. The incumbent of the post of Electrical Designer would assist in the design and implementation of developments arising from the continued growth of the Communications and Information Technology Services installations providing worldwide support to missions, such as data centres and antennas for enlarged satellite operations, and would also assist in the acquisition and construction of new buildings on the Base, following the signing of addendum II to the memorandum of understanding with the Government of Italy. The incumbent of one of the Engineering Assistant posts would assist with the extra workload envisaged by the design and construction-intensive long-term plan of the Base, including the preparation and maintenance of technical drawings of all types of facilities, provide assistance to the Chief Engineer in the preparation of the scope of works/requirements and technical specifications of projects, and assist in the monitoring and supervision of the execution of projects by contractors and consultants in accordance with Italian laws governing professional practice. The projects engendered by the long-term plan represent a substantial increase in the number of projects to be handled by the Engineering Unit and would require additional resources in the Unit.

91. In addition, in view of the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert to posts former individual, contractor positions the incumbents of which have been performing functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert two individual contractor positions to posts (national General Service).

92. Furthermore, as noted and justified in paragraph 64 above, it is proposed to redeploy two national General Service posts to the Facilities Management Section.

Table 4
Human Resources: Communications and Information Technology Services

	International staff										
Civilian staff	*USG-ASG*	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Office of the Chief, Communications and Information Technology Services											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	**2**	2	—	**4**
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	**3**	4	—	**7**
Net change	—	—	**1**	—	—	—	—	**1**	2	—	**3**
Operations Section (former Network System Section)											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	**7**	7	—	**14**
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	2	6	—	—	**9**	9	—	**18**
Net change	—	—	**1**	**1**	—	—	—	**2**	2	—	**4**

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
System Support Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	3	—	5
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	4
Net change	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	(1)
Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit[a]											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	23	—	25
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net change	—	—	—	—	(2)	—	—	(2)	(23)	—	(25)
Campus Support Unit[a]											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	12	—	13
Net change	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	12	—	13
Technology Infrastructure Unit[a]											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	17	—	18
Net change	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	17	—	18
Assets Management Unit[a]											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	10
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	10
Site B, Valencia[a]											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	4	2	—	6
Net change	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	4	2	—	6
Total, Communications and Information Technology Services											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	2	2	9	—	—	13	35	—	48
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	7	2	10	—	—	19	57	—	76
Net change, Communications and Information Technology Services	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	6	22	—	28

[a] Reflects the restructuring of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit.

Office of the Chief, Communications and Information Technology Services

International staff: increase of 1 post

National staff: increase of 2 posts

93. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Office of the Chief, Communications and Information Technology Services: creation of three posts (1 P-4 and 2 national General Service).

94. The Communications and Information Technology Services acts as the global and strategic information and communications technology hub for United Nations field operations worldwide, the main bridge for data communications, and the disaster recovery and business continuity centre by backing up all United Nations peacekeeping mission data, and serves as the host of all global software systems of the Department of Field Support. The expansion of peacekeeping operations has resulted in increasing requirements for data storage and related staff in the Services, which manages an apportionment of approximately $14 million, or 43 per cent, of the overall operations budget. A review of the level of administrative service requirements and the consequent analysis of capacity highlighted a risk to service achievement.

95. It is proposed to establish the post of Senior Satellite Communications Engineer at the P-4 level to reinforce the staffing requirement of the Satellite Engineering Support Unit. The incumbent of the post would be responsible for: the operations and monitoring of the satellite communications network of the Department of Field Support to ensure the availability and continuity of management services associated with the 155 satellite links that terminate at the Base; frequency management and bandwidth allocation for all transponder space managed by the Department of Field Support; coordination of field mission implementation activities with mission engineers in addition to establishing operational policies and standards; identifying the need for new systems or modifications to existing systems in response to the needs and requests of Department of Peacekeeping Operations missions; and the provision of expert advice to the Chief of the Operations Section on the management, operation and maintenance of the satellite network. It is proposed that the level of the post of Senior Satellite Communications Engineer be established at the P-4 level owing to the complexity, accountability requirements and consequences of errors that could cause interruption of the communications and information technology services provided by the Base to any mission, United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations agencies. The Office of Internal Oversight Services recommended that the Communications and Information Technology Services at the Base undertake a review of its staffing requirements so that the accountability for planning, managing and monitoring the operations of the satellite farm could be assigned and effectively discharged by a dedicated resource.

96. The Office of the Chief currently has two national General Service posts, the incumbents of which perform day-to-day administrative operations. The workload, scope and complexity of the administration of the Services have increased significantly during past years, and the current staffing resources are inadequate to effectively support the service requirements that are expected to be undertaken in the future. In this context, it is proposed to reinforce the staffing of the Services through the establishment of an additional post of Planning and Budget Assistant

(national General Service), the incumbent of which would support the Chief in the planning and financial management of the Services. The incumbent of the post would be responsible for the delivery of expert assistance to the Chief and managers in the preparation and development of the work programme and budget of the Communications and Information Technology Services. The incumbent would monitor and control the budget/work programme of the Services with respect to various accounts and other funds on a regular basis, identify the actual cost of Communications and Information Technology Services and their provision, prepare customized financial and accounting reports with respect to the Services' appropriations, conduct internal financial data integrity reviews aimed at quality assurance within the financial/accounting systems used for the planning, monitoring and control of the programme of the Communications and Information Technology Services, and provide accurate and vital financial information to assist in decision-making. In addition, he or she would assist the Communications and Information Technology Services in accomplishing its defined outputs in the Project in Controlled Environments-2 framework.

97. In addition, in the light of the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert to posts former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which have been performing functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert one independent contractor position to the post of Technical Designer (national General Service).

Operations Section (former Network Systems Section)

International staff: increase of 2 posts

National staff: increase of 2 posts

98. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Operations Section: creation of three posts (1 P-4 and 2 national General Service); and redeployment of one post (P-3) from the Systems Support Section.

99. It is proposed to establish the post of Chief of the Operations Section at the P-4 level. The volume of support provided to field operations has increased significantly during the past few years. The availability of communications and network systems is of paramount importance to field operations, as any interruption in service might result in a global service outage, given that the current infrastructure of the Communications and Information Technology Services could affect the smooth and consistent operation of the data centre and telecommunications hub of the United Nations from the perspective of both current situations and expected future expansion. The Board of Auditors, pursuant to the observations on information and communications technology contained in its report A/62/5 (Vol. II) (chap. II), recommended that the Base, in conjunction with United Nations Headquarters, evaluate the current Communications and Information Technology Services infrastructure arrangements with a view to improving the protection of the Services' equipment and to ensure smooth and uninterrupted operations over a long term. The incumbent of the post of Chief of the Operations Section would manage all support services for the information and communications technology network systems and the communications infrastructure and systems at the Base in support of missions and field offices, the Base and the United Nations Headquarters; oversee the planning, design, implementation and maintenance of all

information and communications technology equipment and systems necessary for the voice, data and video systems hosted at the information and communications technology hub at the Base; and manage contract services related to telephone service providers, Internet services, providers of leased line; and vendors for services related to storage, network and other communications equipment. In addition, the Chief of the Section would be responsible for the day-to-day management of three core functions as follows:

(a) The Data Centre Support Unit, which plans, implements and administers all network systems at the Data Centre to host services used by field operations, manages 450 servers and 500 terabytes of raw storage capacity and hosts systems such as the Galileo (assets management) and Mercury (procurement) systems, the funds monitoring tool, webmail servers for missions, various mission websites, the Department of Field Support Intranet, and many other field applications. The Unit is responsible for archiving all mission data and mail files for a period of seven years;

(b) The Network Support Unit, which is responsible for managing and routing all phone calls between missions and to the public telephone network and for setting up and maintaining inter-mission videoconferences (20 million inter-mission calls, 16 million commercial calls and 6,000 videoconferences are routed yearly through the Base);

(c) The Satellite Engineering Support Unit, which is responsible for the continuity of the management services associated with the 155 Department of Field Support satellite links that terminate at the Base, including frequency management and bandwidth allocation for all transponder space managed by the Department of Field Support.

100. The number of staff to be supervised by the Chief of the Operations Section would be 64 (including 47 technical support service contractors, with 28 of the contractors providing communications support services and the remainder providing information technology services). The scope and complexity of the above-mentioned tasks require a senior level officer to oversee those activities in order to ensure that there is no interruption of services and that the information and communications technology infrastructure is managed and supported 24 hours a day, and 7 days a week.

101. It is proposed that the post of Information Systems Officer (P-3) be redeployed from the Systems Section as the post was erroneously reflected under that section in the 2008/09 organizational structure. The redeployment of the post to the Operations Section is intended to accurately represent the placement of those functions in the organizational structure of the Communications and Information Technology Services.

102. Given the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert to posts former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which perform functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert two independent contractor positions to Communications Technician and Videoconferencing Technician posts (national General Service).

Systems Section

International staff: decrease of 1 post

103. As noted in paragraph 101 above, it is proposed to redeploy the post of Information Systems Officer (P-3) to the Operations Section. The post was erroneously reflected under the Systems Section in the 2008/09 organizational structure, and the redeployment to the Operations Section is intended to accurately represent the placement of this function within the organizational structure of the Communications and Information Technology Services.

Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit

International staff: decrease of 2 posts

National staff: decrease of 23 posts

104. In line with the long-term plan of the Base, the functions and staffing resources of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit would be reorganized into three new units — the Campus Support, Technology Infrastructure and Assets Management Units. The rationale for the reorganization is to align the structure of the Communications and Information Technology Services with the support requirements of the Department of Field Support. The reorganization into smaller, more focused service units necessitates the redeployment of current staffing resources to the above-mentioned new units. Renaming the Integrated Maintenance Unit to the Technology Infrastructure Unit more closely reflects its actual mandate and functions. To that effect, it is proposed to redeploy all international and national posts (2 Field Service and 23 national General Service) to the Campus Support Unit, the Technology Infrastructure Unit and the Assets Management Unit.

Campus Support Unit

International staff: increase of 1 post

National staff: increase of 12 posts

105. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Campus Support Unit: redeployment of seven posts (1 Field Service and 6 national General Service) from the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit); and creation of 6 posts (national General Service).

106. Following the reorganization of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit, it is proposed that one Field Service post and six national General Service posts be redeployed to the Campus Support Unit. The functions of the posts would remain unchanged.

107. It is also proposed that the staffing structure of the Campus Support Unit be augmented by the establishment of four posts (national General Service) of Information Technology Assistant (LAN support), two Information Technology Technicians (Desktop Support) and Information Systems Assistant (Applications Support). The incumbent of the Information Technology Assistant (LAN Support) would maintain, configure, upgrade and manage all of the Base's voice systems, including any necessary reprogramming, replacement of parts, upgrades and technical modifications to the Cisco Voice over Internet Protocol telephone

appliance. The incumbent would perform the design and implement low-cost routing and manage international circuits that support the Base's connections to the local provider, as well as engineer and coordinate the expansion, maintenance and upgrades of the Base's information technology infrastructure. The incumbent of the Information Technology Technician posts (Desktop Support) would provide end-user support for the Base campus users in regard to workstations, fax machines, digital senders, printers, plotters, Cisco Internet Protocol telephone, wireless telephony, wireless access, Lotus Notes, office applications, MARS, Galileo, mobile telephones, Blackberry devices and other related peripherals in accordance with Information Technology Infrastructure Library procedures and guidelines along with all information technology-related workstations, software and peripherals. The incumbent of the Information Systems Assistant post (Applications Support) would be responsible for the development and support of the Base's Internet/Intranet applications and for the structure query language server administration. The incumbent would also assist in developing, programming, testing, debugging and implementing the computer application system releases and functionalities in the web area. His or her functions would also include assisting in providing technical guidance to the development team, performing benchmarking and proposing new acquisitions in the implementation of new technologies. The incumbents of the posts would be required to support the increase in workload as a result of the establishment, growth and arrival of the new tenants at the Base, since current staffing levels are inadequate in comparison with response times and the number of trouble tickets that need to be addressed. The aim of the Campus Support Unit would be to significantly reduce downtime for the Base's campus as a whole, thus increasing efficiency, which would have a direct impact on the business goals of the Base and the Tenant Units. The Unit has experienced exponential growth in the activities of its daily maintenance of the network since 2004. The increase relates in particular to direct desktop support and the growth in Tenant Units. In addition to desktop support, the Base's Campus Support Unit has 86 servers and over 100 printers and provides mission support for Blackberry telephones along with the Cisco Voice over Internet Protocol telephones. This expansion will encompass 53 buildings, which are geographically dispersed over a 2 kilometre radius.

108. Furthermore, given the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which have been performing functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert two independent contractor positions to posts of Information Systems Assistant and Information Technology Assistant (national General Service).

Technology Infrastructure Unit

International staff: increase of 1 post

National staff: increase of 17 posts

109. Following the reorganization of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit, and as explained in paragraph 104 above, it is proposed that one Field Service post and eight national General Service posts be redeployed to the Technology Infrastructure Unit. The functions of the posts will remain unchanged.

110. In addition, and in view of the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert to posts former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which have been performing functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert nine independent contractor positions to six Communications Technician and three Information Technology Assistant posts (national General Service).

Assets Management Unit

National staff: increase of 10 posts

111. Following the reorganization of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit as explained in paragraph 104 above, it is proposed to redeploy nine national General Service posts to the Assets Management Unit. The functions of the posts will remain unchanged.

112. In view of the Italian legislation governing long-term temporary employment contracts, it has become necessary to convert to posts former individual contractor positions, the incumbents of which have been performing functions that are of an ongoing nature. Accordingly, it is proposed to convert one independent contractor position to the post of Storekeeper (national General Service).

Site B, Valencia

International staff: increase of 4 posts

National staff: increase of 2 posts

113. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment for Site B, Valencia: creation of six posts (1 P-5, 2 P-4, 1 Field Service and 2 national General Service).

114. In order to support peace operations and ensure the integrity of the core information and communications technology functions of the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support, the General Assembly, in its resolution 63/262, approved the establishment of a secondary active telecommunications facility site in Valencia, Spain. It is proposed to establish the post of Project Manager (P-5), the incumbent of which would be responsible for the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all Site B project work packages and project activities and provide authoritative and key guidance to the project team throughout the execution of the project. The incumbent would also have overall responsibility for the establishment and commissioning of the Site B global information and communications technology hub facility and be the officer responsible for all activities being performed in the host country, in addition to serving as the focal point for all interaction with local and national authorities. He or she, as the most senior officer on the ground, would also be responsible for ensuring compliance with the Implementation Agreement and the Host Country Agreement. It is envisaged that the title of the post would be changed after the completion of Site B, to Site B Information and Communications Technology Manager.

115. The Project Manager would be assisted by a Senior Administrative Assistant (national General Service). The functions of the Senior Administrative Assistant would include providing direct assistance to the Project Manager during the first

three phases of the project, providing support to the Project Manager in terms of project planning, implementation and service delivery in order to establish a facility that fully meets the requirements of the Organization, and providing key back office support in addition to serving as the focal point for all budgetary matters. The post would remain at Site B to continue the provision of administrative support to the Project Officer after the start-up phases have been completed.

116. It is also proposed to establish two posts of Communications Officer (Operations and Network Support) (2 P-4), one post of Communications Officer (Technology Infrastructure) (Field Service) and one post of Administrative Assistant (national General Service). The posts are required for the coordination and management of the initial phases of the facility (from phase 2). The second phase will entail the construction of the infrastructure identified in phase 1 and the implementation of new cost-effective inventory procedures and global supply-chain support.

117. The incumbent of the Communications Officer (Operations) post would be responsible for planning, designing, implementing and maintaining all of the network systems necessary for the Department of Field Support voice, data and video systems hosted in Valencia. His or her functions would include overseeing the day-to-day operations of the secondary active communications facility at Valencia and the technical management of information and communications technology disaster recovery and business continuity activities in support of Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Field Support missions and United Nations agencies by ensuring that work progresses and that planned activities are carried out in a timely manner, and by coordinating various projects within the Services, and in liaison with United Nations Headquarters, the Department of Field Support and the Logistics Base. The scope and complexity of those tasks require the services of a senior level officer to coordinate all activities, maintain continuous services and ensure that the installed infrastructure is managed and supported on a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week basis.

118. The incumbent of the Communications Officer (Network Support) post would be responsible for planning, designing, engineering, implementing, and operating the Site B hub network environment in addition to the wide area network connections. His or her functions would include responsibility for the operations and oversight of the voice, data and video network systems, as well as all Network Control Centre activities.

119. The incumbent of the Communications Officer (Technology Infrastructure) post would be responsible for planning, designing, engineering, implementing and operating all the critical Data Centre environmental systems necessary to operate the Site B facility. The information and communications technology precision systems to be supported are: heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, fire suppression, access control, closed circuit television, power distribution/uninterruptible power supply and intrusion detection systems.

120. The incumbent of the Administrative Assistant post would perform daily administrative work encompassing human resources support activities, including maintenance of leave records, training and attendance, as well as managing the filing system and records management activities. His or her functions would also include assisting with the billing processes associated with telecommunications services and the generation of requisitions.

Table 5
Human resources: Tenant Units

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Integrated Training Service											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	8	2	—	10
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	2	—	5
Net change	—	—	(3)	(2)	—	—	—	(5)	—	—	(5)
Regional Aviation Safety Office											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
Net change	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Strategic Air Operations Centre											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	4	3	—	—	8	1	—	9
Net change	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	5	1	—	6
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net change	—	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	(1)	(1)	—	(2)
Total, Strategic Air Operations Centre											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	4	1	—	5
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	4	3	—	—	8	1	—	9
Net change	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	4	—	—	4
Engineering Standards and Design Centre											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	4	4	—	8
Net change	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	4	4	—	8
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net change	—	—	(1)	(1)	—	—	—	(2)	(2)	—	(4)
Total, Engineering Standards and Design Centre											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	4	4	—	8
Net change	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Geographic Information System Centre											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	5	1	—	—	7	4	—	11
Net change	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	6	4	—	10

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	5	—	7
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net change	—	—	—	**(1)**	**(1)**	—	—	**(2)**	**(5)**	—	**(7)**
Total, Geographic Information System Centre											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	**3**	5	—	**8**
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	5	1	—	—	**7**	4	—	**11**
Net change	—	—	—	**4**	—	—	—	**4**	**(1)**	—	**3**
Reference Checking Unit											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	**6**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**6**	—	**6**
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	**1**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**1**	—	**1**
Total, Reference Checking Unit											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	**7**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**7**	—	**7**
Standing Police Capacity											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10[b]	—	1	36	34	2	—	—	**73**	3	—	**76**
Net change	—	**1**	**36**	**34**	**2**	—	—	**73**	**3**	—	**76**
Surface Transport Technical Support Unit											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	**3**	—	—	**3**
Net change	—	—	**1**	**1**	**1**	—	—	**3**	—	—	**3**
Total posts											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	6	8	—	—	—	**14**	2	—	**16**
Proposed posts 2009/10	—	1	42	51	7	—	—	**101**	20	—	**121**
Net change, posts	—	**1**	**36**	**43**	**7**	—	—	**87**	**18**	—	**105**
Total positions											
Approved temporary positions[a] 2008/09	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	**5**	8	—	**13**
Proposed temporary positions[a] 2009/10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	**1**
Net change, positions	—	—	**(1)**	**(2)**	**(2)**	—	—	**(5)**	**(7)**	—	**(12)**

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Total, Tenant Units											
Approved 2008/09	—	—	7	10	2	—	—	**19**	10	—	**29**
Proposed 2009/10	—	1	42	51	7	—	—	**101**	21	—	**122**
Net change, Tenant Units	**—**	**1**	**35**	**41**	**5**	**—**	**—**	**82**	**11**	**—**	**93**

[a] Funded under general temporary assistance.
[b] Includes 27 posts transferred from Headquarters and an increase in the strength of the Standing Police Capacity by an additional 49 posts.

Integrated Training Service

International staff: decrease of 5 posts

121. It is proposed to redeploy five professional posts from the Integrated Training Service from UNLB back to Headquarters. Those posts comprise one Civilian Training Officer (P-5), two seconded Military Training Officers (P-4 and P-3), and two seconded Police Training Officers (P-4 and P-3). The Service was relocated to the Base in the 2006/07 period to achieve savings through the centralized delivery of training programmes and support, such as civilian predeployment training courses and support to Member States. The savings achieved to date have been limited to the delivery of the civilian predeployment training programme; therefore, the resources dedicated to supporting Member States will be relocated back to New York in order to realign them with their primary client base. The Service will continue to deliver the mandatory civilian predeployment training with three dedicated Professional civilian training officers, with administrative support provided by two national General Service staff.

Regional Aviation Safety Office

International staff: increase of 1 post

122. It is proposed that the management capacity of the Office be strengthened through the establishment of an Aviation Safety Officer post (P-4), the incumbent of which would function as the Chief of the Regional Aviation Safety Office in the light of the increase in its responsibilities and functions. The Regional Aviation Safety Office was established as a pilot project in 2006 to provide aviation safety oversight to the Base and to UNOMIG and UNMIK. The Office conducts regular aviation safety assistance visits and carrier assessments during troop rotations to UNOMIG and UNMIK, conducts carrier survey visits to operators in the region, liaises with local civil aviation authorities and disseminates aviation safety-related information. The activities of the Office are currently managed by two Regional Aviation Safety Officers.

123. In accordance with the review of operations, the Office has expanded support to include the provision of aviation safety oversight to UNFICYP (3 rotary-wing aircraft), UNIFIL (9 rotary-wing aircraft) and UNAMI (1 fixed-wing and 2 anticipated rotary-wing aircraft). None of those three missions has an assigned Aviation Safety Officer. Until 2007, the aviation safety assistance visits to UNFICYP and UNIFIL were conducted by Headquarters. The Military Aviation

Safety Officers at UNFICYP and UNIFIL, as part of the contingents deployed to the missions, will continue to act as focal points for aviation safety and will maintain communication with the Regional Aviation Safety Office. In addition, the responsibilities of the Office have expanded to include participation in civilian predeployment induction training, the conduct of induction training for new field Aviation Safety Officers, and the provision of assistance and support to new start-up missions. Regional Aviation Safety Officers also participate actively in the development of fundamental documents related to aviation safety, such as consolidated and harmonized methodology and checklists for carrier assessment and initial aircraft inspection, which will form part of the new revision of the Department of Field Support Aviation Safety Manual. As part of the implementation of the Headquarters policy on aviation operational risk management, the Regional Aviation Safety Office has been tasked with serving as an information resource and coordination centre for affiliated missions. The combination of the increase in volume and scope of tasks has meant that a corresponding increase in capacity to meet those tasks needs to be established.

Strategic Air Operations Centre

International staff: increase of 6 posts and decrease of 2 positions

124. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Strategic Air Operations Centre: abolishment of two positions (1 Field Service and 1 national General Service); and creation of 6 posts (2 P-3, 3 Field Service and 1 national General Service).

125. The Strategic Air Operations Centre was established in the 2007/08 period as a Tenant Unit to provide global integrated fleet management to support the aviation requirements of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations worldwide, while reducing the operational costs of the current fleet. The increase in peacekeeping operations in the past two years, as evidenced by the significant increases in aircraft and troop deployment in the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), the rapid expansion of UNAMID and the establishment of MINURCAT, has resulted in a corresponding increase in the demand for the services of the Centre. In the 2008/09 period, the Centre frequently provided support to Department of Political Affairs missions, such as the United Nations Office for West Africa, and operational assistance to the Special Envoys of the Secretary-General for eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and for the Lord's Resistance Army-Affected Areas. In addition, the activities of the Centre have expanded to include the installation of back office technology necessary to operate the Centre in accordance with industry best practices. Such technology will enable the Centre to consolidate its activities, particularly in the context of a number of projects already in the pipeline, such as oversight of the western and eastern African reserve fleets, the inception of a long-haul airliner in East and West Africa, the provision of support to MINURCAT and UNAMID, and undertaking mission evacuation and search-and-rescue operations. The responsibilities and functions of the Centre will increase further in 2009/10, in line with Headquarters implementation directives. The Centre will expand its flight operations policies, provide guidance and standardization for integrated global flight operations 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, develop specifications for the performance of technical analysis and selection of new cost-effective aircraft, and promote and implement measures that will result in a reduction in the amount of fuel consumed.

In addition, a major element of the Centre's functions will be the realization of the efficient use of air assets to further the global concept of fleet utilization through the use of the latest satellite communications technology to track the movement of United Nations aircraft around the world, and implement new flight schedules and route structure. The fleet deployed worldwide for the 2009/10 period is expected to comprise 248 aircraft (67 fixed-wing and 181 rotary-wing). The new practices will entail a transition from the practice of non-integrated air assets constructed on a mission-by-mission basis to a regionalized and global concept methodology, which will entail a reduction of the current air fleet by 12 per cent within the next three years.

126. It is proposed to reinforce the staffing structure of the Centre through the establishment of two additional Aviation Operations Officer posts (P-3) and two Aviation Operations Assistant posts (Field Service). The additional personnel is required to ensure that the required level of service can be effectively provided. The Centre currently has a staffing establishment that comprises the Chief of the Strategic Air Operations Centre (P-4), two Aviation Operations Officers (P-3) and two positions established under general temporary assistance. Following the restructuring and expansion of the strategic operations and global utilization of air assets in East and West Africa, Europe and the American continents, the Aviation Operations Officers are required to assist the Chief in all aspects of aviation operations, acquisition planning and fleet utilization, including providing strategic planning and monitoring of the air assets of Department of Peacekeeping Operations missions. The incumbents of the two Aviation Operations Assistant posts would assist in the provision of strategic oversight to aviation operations and maintenance of air safety. They will work in shifts to maintain 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week control of air assets during flight operations in accordance with the standards and recommended practice of the International Civil Aviation Organization and the United Nations. The Assistants would also prepare flight logs, which are necessary for cross-checking aircraft usage reports presented by air carriers.

127. It is also proposed to convert the two general temporary assistance positions of Aviation Operations Assistant (Field Service and national General Service) to posts, as this would ensure the long-term stability of the operations of the Centre.

Engineering Standards and Design Centre

International staff: increase of 4 posts and decrease of 2 positions

National staff: increase of 4 posts and decrease of 2 positions

128. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Engineering Standards and Design Centre: abolishment of four positions (1 P-4, 1 P-3 and 2 national General Service); and creation of eight posts (1 P-4, 3 P-3 and 4 national General Service).

129. The Centre is responsible for the development and maintenance of standardized designs, scales and templates for engineering works carried out in field operations, including for military, police and force headquarters, logistics bases and formed police units/military camps. The Centre serves as a centralized location for engineers in field operations to access standardized design packages, including drawings, scope of works, bills of quantities and technical specifications, as well as useful planning tools and templates that facilitate the quick and efficient

implementation of construction works in the field. The activities of the Centre include collecting and screening of data for the engineering database (currently 3.5 gigabytes), contacting and supporting missions via the Centre's workspace (currently 16 missions), screening reference data and international guidelines to streamline engineering design in field operations, and developing two urgently required statements of requirements, including six design packages for the field. The staffing resources of the Centre currently comprise the Chief, Engineering Standards and Design Centre (P-4), an Engineer (P-3) and two Engineering Assistants (national General service), all funded under general temporary assistance. In the 2009/10 period, in addition to its current responsibilities, the Centre will continue the development and improvement of the engineer database based on lessons learned from previous operations and establish an engineering standards library accessible by all field operations. It will also take on a more specialized and advanced role in the development and support of new and green technologies, especially in the area of photovoltaic and new generation power supply, and solar heating systems, and in recycling, such as new water purification and wastewater treatment systems. The Centre has been frequently approached by field operations regarding individual structural design problems and proper evaluation of existing structures. The Centre plans to extend its services to provide assistance to field operations in general on structural design. Future plans include the development of the Centre into one of engineering excellence by enhancing its capabilities and assuming responsibility for product specifications in support of systems contracts, green technology (to be introduced to field operations) and the provision of specific engineering support to missions, in particular during start-up phases.

130. In line with the long-term plans of the Base, it is proposed to strengthen the staffing structure of the Centre through the establishment of two new posts of Water/Sanitation Engineer and Electrical Engineer (P-3) and two new posts of Engineering Assistant and Administrative Assistant (national General Service).

131. The incumbents of the Water/Sanitation and Electrical Engineer posts would provide expertise in their individual specialized areas to enable the development by the Centre of engineering design packages and other related tools and products. They would also be part of the engineering deployment teams that would provide on-the-ground engineering assistance to the field and start-up missions.

132. The services of an Engineering Assistant are required in order to provide specialized expertise on civil/structural engineering design with regard to the products developed by the Centre for use in field operations.

133. The incumbent of the Administrative Assistant post would carry out all administrative work for the Centre and would manage and build the engineering standards library.

134. As the functions of the Centre are of a core and continuing nature, it is also proposed to convert to posts the general temporary assistance positions of Chief, Engineering Standards and Design Centre (P-4), Engineer (P-3) and two Engineering Assistants (national General Service).

Geographic Information System Centre

International staff: increase of 6 posts and decrease of 2 positions

National staff: increase of 4 posts and decrease of 5 positions

135. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Geographic Information System (GIS) Centre: abolishment of seven positions (1 P-3, 1 Field Service and 5 national General Service); and the creation of 10 posts (3 P-3, 2 P-2, 1 Field Service and 4 national General Service).

136. The GIS Centre of the Cartographic Section was established as a Tenant Unit in the 2007/08 budget period and achieved operational status in January 2008. The Centre carries out substantive tasks to deliver GIS products (topographic operational maps, satellite image maps and geo-database) to UNIFIL and UNAMID and also provides GIS services (water assessment analysis and terrain analysis, including flooding hazards, to aid camp site selection) to UNAMID. The Centre also serves as a secure repository of all mission GIS data and replicates the data with the Cartographic Section at Headquarters to establish a global geo-database in a near real-time environment for field operations. The Centre will also develop a GIS start-up capacity for new and/or expanded missions; will develop, facilitate and conduct GIS training for mission staff; and will provide global online GIS applications, such as an integrated global geo-database system, the United Nations Google Earth Enterprise, and United Nations gazetteer system for searching place names in a GIS environment.

137. To support the ongoing need to identify water sources (underground water assessment by GIS analysis and remote sensing) in mission areas, the Centre will create a terrain analysis capacity, which will be responsible for conducting geospatial and GIS terrain analysis, in particular for underground water assessment in arid areas, and for developing and conducting GIS training of mission staff. The functions linked to that capacity are new for the GIS Centre. In addition, the terrain analysis cell will be in charge of providing a wide variety of training modules and preparing in-house case studies. Therefore, it is proposed to establish a post of Geographic Information System Officer (P-3) and a post of Associate Geographic Information Officer (P-2), the incumbents of which would focus on the overall aim of the cell, and have specific knowledge of hydrogeology, underground water source analysis, GIS terrain analysis and satellite remote sensing.

138. In order to provide centralized capacity for GIS system installation/set up and mission start-up and maximize the global GIS online assets of the Centre, it is necessary to strengthen the existing Geo-System Administration Cell to become the Geo-System and Start-up Cell. The capacity will be responsible for the provision of geo-visualization systems, such as the United Nations Google Earth Enterprise system, online web mapping, the United Nations gazetteer system, to maintain and operate the global GIS systems and prepare for mission start-up. Therefore, it is proposed to establish a post of GIS Officer (P-3), the incumbent of which would focus on the strengthening of the Cell and would have specific knowledge of Intranet/Internet-based GIS applications, mobile GIS technology, spatial geo-database engine and web technology. The incumbent would develop and harmonize a complex system architecture to enable the smooth exchange of data between Headquarters and missions, which requires significant expertise in information technology, GIS and leadership skills.

139. The geo-data production capacity would be responsible for the production of the geo-database and maps. Taking into consideration the increasing base-mapping workload and growing commitments in support of peacekeepers, as well as the required standardization of workflows and processes, it is proposed to strengthen the capacity with the addition of a post of Associate GIS Officer (P-2), the incumbent of which would have qualifications in satellite remote sensing, and GIS and/or photogrammetry.

140. In line with the long-term plan of the Base, it is also proposed to strengthen the staffing establishment of the GIS Centre through the conversion to posts of the following positions established under general temporary assistance: one GIS Officer (P-3); one GIS Administrator (Field Service); and four GIS Assistants (national General Service).

141. The position of GIS Assistant (national General Service) funded from general temporary assistance is proposed for abolishment.

Reference Checking Unit

National staff: increase of 6 posts and 1 position

142. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Reference Checking Unit: creation of six national General Service posts and 1 national General Service position.

143. The Unit was established in the 2007/08 period as a pilot project in the Personnel Section with six Recruitment Assistant posts funded under general temporary assistance. Given the establishment of the Reference Checking Unit as a Tenant Unit, the six Recruitment Assistant posts would be redeployed from the Personnel Section. The languages supported by the Unit are English, French, Spanish and Arabic. The Unit was outposted from the Recruitment and Outreach and Career Development Unit of the Field Personnel Division, Department of Field Support. The role of the Referencing Checking Unit is to verify the employment and educational credentials of candidates selected for mission appointments, up to and including the D-2 level. The activities of the Unit have included providing data and information for the completion of the Standard Operating Procedures Manual and providing references and tools for verifying the credentials of applicants by collecting and sharing information on worldwide educational institutions, diploma mills and unaccredited institutions.

144. The human resource reforms recently approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/250 will have an impact on the activities of the Unit. Staff members on fixed-term appointments seeking to be placed on the roster and considered as internal candidates would be required to have their educational qualifications validated by the Unit. In addition, the Unit would also have to carry out reference checks for staff selected for peace operations, as they would no longer be limited to service within their mission but would equally be considered as internal candidates for posts in all field operations and at Headquarters. Since the Unit was established, it has received 2,525 referrals for references, of which the Unit has completed checks on 1,038 candidates. This volume is expected to increase during the 2009/10 period. In addition, the roles and responsibilities of the Unit are constantly expanding, including the recent agreement with the Investigation Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to complete reference checks that are essential to the successful completion of its investigations. In order to ensure the long-term stability and viability of the Unit, it is proposed to convert to posts the six

Recruitment Assistant positions (national General Service), funded from general temporary assistance, that were redeployed from the Personnel Section.

145. The Unit has ongoing cases that require knowledge of other languages, such as Russian, Serbian and Bulgarian and the translation of texts written in the Cyrillic alphabet. In particular, the absence of a Russian language speaker has made it difficult to communicate with many institutions in which Russian is used and other United Nations languages are not. It is therefore proposed to reinforce the capacity of the Unit through the establishment of a Recruitment Assistant position (national General Service), the incumbent of which would be Russian speaking, to be funded from general temporary assistance.

Standing Police Capacity

International staff: increase of 73 posts

National staff: increase of 3 posts

146. The following changes are proposed to the staffing establishment of the Standing Police Capacity: redeployment of 27 posts from United Nations Headquarters (1 D-1, 2 P-5, 14 P-4, 8 P-3 and 2 national General Service); and creation of 49 posts (4 P-5, 16 P-4, 26 P-3, 2 Field Service and 1 national General Service).

147. In its report on the first year of operations of the Standing Police Capacity (A/63/630), the panel of experts noted that the Executive Office of the Secretary-General had endorsed the recommendation of the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations that the Standing Police Capacity be relocated to the Base. In that context, it is proposed to transfer 25 Standing Police Officer posts (1 D-1, 2 P-5, 14 P-4 and 8 P-3) and 2 Administrative Assistant posts (national General Service) from United Nations Headquarters to the Base. Those posts were previously funded under the support account for peacekeeping operations.

148. The aim of the Standing Police Capacity is to make the police component of a new peacekeeping operation more effective at implementing its mandate sooner. This not only involves office setup but also requires close relationships within the mission and with the host Government. In the first Standing Police Capacity deployment to MINURCAT, various elements of the Standing Police Capacity were deployed in Chad for nine months, instead of the three months initially envisaged. At present, the Standing Police Capacity is currently too small to be consistently effective in performing its core functions. While it has some specialists in one area, its availability for rapid mission start-up is jeopardized, for example, by rendering assistance under its second core function. A comparable minimum functionality for the police component of a smaller mission with mostly capacity-building duties would involve 20 to 30 personnel. The Standing Police Capacity does not currently have the personnel needed to start up the police component of a large mission, while being able to respond adequately to an assistance mission under its second core function. As outlined by the panel of experts in its report, the present configuration of the Standing Police Capacity demonstrated a lack of certain necessary areas of specialization, following the case of the first deployment of the Standing Police Capacity to MINURCAT. The panel suggested two options for providing greater depth in the Standing Police Capacity. The proposal contained in the present report is in line with the second option, which would enable the Standing Police Capacity to start up two small- to medium-sized police headquarters components or one major component in a mission such as MINUSTAH or UNAMID, while meeting other

requests for assistance or assessment. The panel recommended that the Standing Police Capacity be complemented by the simultaneous or predeployment of the following categories of personnel: budget planners to liaise with third-party donors regarding capacity-building support requirements; human resource managers for the induction and management of United Nations police contingents in a start-up operation; civil engineers for detailed assessments of infrastructure redevelopment needs; contract managers to solicit and manage local bids to undertake construction activities; gender specialists to promote gender awareness and mainstreaming in local police activities; and general administrative managers who would be essential for the development of the capacities of national law enforcement agencies in the areas of personnel, finance, budget, procurement and asset management, which are fundamental requirements for building any sustainable institution.

149. In line with the second option outlined by the panel of experts, it is proposed to increase the strength of the Standing Police Capacity with the creation of an additional 46 Standing Police Officer posts (4 P-5, 16 P-4 and 26 P-3) and one Administrative Assistant post (national General Service). The establishment of two Field Service posts is also proposed in order to facilitate the hiring of support staff with sufficient skills and expertise in police administration, including budgeting and planning. The increase in staff would provide the Standing Police Capacity with the flexibility to focus on and deploy to more than one operation at a time, while maintaining a rapid reserve deployment team at the Base.

Surface Transport Technical Support Unit

International staff: increase of 3 posts

150. It is proposed to establish a new Technical Support Unit as part of the Surface Transport Section through the creation of one Transport Officer post (P-4), the incumbent of which would serve as Chief of the Unit, one Transport Officer post (P-3) and one Technical Support Officer post (Field Service). The Unit would support the Surface Transport Section in the creation of a culture of excellence within surface transport components of field operations and increase organizational effectiveness. The functions of the Unit would include the development and implementation of a capacity to control, standardize and systematize the methodologies currently used in monitoring manufacturers' warranty issues and factory recalls that have any form of financial or liability implications. Also, the Unit would have the capacity to provide technical support and recommendations for corrective actions on technical issues in real time where necessary and to establish a unified and coherent system of implementing and monitoring the Surface Transport Section codification of expendable and non-expendable inventory, thereby providing a comprehensive analysis of the Surface Transport Section property management and logistic support performance trends. The incumbent of the post of the Chief, Technical Support Unit, would provide oversight and management of global warranty and recalls and issues related to claims and vendor technical support. The incumbent of the Transport Officer post would be responsible for codification activities, coordination of best practices and standardization of methodologies in transport logistics. The incumbent of the Technical Support Officer post would provide technical assistance to field missions and would be responsible for coordinating and responding to warranty issues.

II. Financial resources

A. Overall

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.)

	Expenditures (2007/08)	*Apportionment (2008/09)*	*Cost estimates (2009/10)*	*Variance*	
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)*	*Amount (4)=(3)-(2)*	*Percentage (5)=(4)÷(2)*
Military and police personnel					
Military observers	—	—	—	—	—
Military contingents	—	—	—	—	—
United Nations police	—	—	—	—	—
Formed police units	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian personnel					
International staff	7 405.8	7 235.9	17 755.9	10 520.0	145.4
National staff	11 300.2	13 068.6	17 479.7	4 411.1	33.8
United Nations Volunteers	—	—	—	—	—
General temporary assistance	1 024.5	2 409.3	867.6	(1 541.7)	(64.0)
Subtotal	**19 730.5**	**22 713.8**	**36 103.2**	**13 389.4**	**58.9**
Operational costs					
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—	—
Consultants	475.0	461.1	688.4	227.3	49.3
Official travel	631.6	923.8	1 119.0	195.2	21.1
Facilities and infrastructure	3 999.1	6 300.6	12 738.1	6 437.5	102.2
Ground transportation	888.1	752.0	940.7	188.7	25.1
Air transportation	—	—	—	—	—
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—	—
Communications	4 653.8	5 100.1	6 859.6	1 759.5	34.5
Information technology	5 254.7	5 616.9	8 046.8	2 429.9	43.3
Medical	391.8	351.8	412.8	61.0	17.3
Special equipment	—	—	—	—	—
Other supplies, services and equipment	4 176.9	3 548.9	1 375.7	(2 173.2)	(61.2)
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**20 471.0**	**23 055.2**	**32 181.1**	**9 125.9**	**39.6**
Gross requirements	**40 201.5**	**45 769.0**	**68 284.3**	**22 515.3**	**49.2**
Staff assessment income	3 002.9	3 473.4	5 093.9	1 620.5	46.7
Net requirements	**37 198.6**	**42 295.6**	**63 190.4**	**20 894.8**	**49.4**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**40 201.5**	**45 769.0**	**68 284.3**	**22 515.3**	**49.2**

B. Non-budgeted contributions

151. The estimated value of non-budgeted contributions for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 is as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Estimated value*
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)[a]	18 828.7
Total	**18 828.7**

[a] Inclusive of office buildings, workshop, warehouse structures and open spaces provided by the Government of Italy valued at $2,359,700 and the first phase of a two-year contribution from the Government of Spain estimated at 25 million euro for land, buildings and office furniture in order to establish the secondary active telecommunications facility at Site B, Valencia, Spain.

C. Efficiency gains

152. The cost estimates for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 take into account the following efficiency initiatives:

(United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*	*Initiative*
Communications and information technology	50 700	The consolidation and virtualization of servers will achieve a reduction in data centre space and in operating costs by reducing the requirement to purchase an additional server and server rack
Ground transportation	163 000	A reduction by 8 in the number of new vehicles purchased through the implementation of the operation and maintenance of the Base's vehicle fleet at 95 per cent availability rate
Ground transportation	6 108	A 5 per cent reduction in the vehicle spare parts holdings of the Base's fleet
Total	**219 808**	

D. Vacancy factors

153. The cost estimates for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 take into account the following vacancy factors:

(Percentage)

Category	*Actual 2007/08*	*Budgeted 2008/09*	*Projected 2009/10*
Civilian personnel			
International staff	14.0	15.0	15.0
National staff			
National General Service staff	5.0	5.0	10.0
Temporary positions[a]			
International staff	40.0	15.0	—
National staff	57.0	5.0	5.0

[a] Funded under general temporary assistance.

154. The vacancy factors applied are based on the experience of the Base. The increase in the vacancy rate for national staff is owing mainly to the difficulty experienced by the Base in recruiting candidates.

E. Training

155. The estimated resource requirements for training for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 are as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Estimated amount*
Consultants	
Training consultants	541.7
Official travel	
Official travel, training	300.3
Other supplies, services and equipment	
Training fees, supplies and services	291.1
Total	**1 133.1**

156. The number of participants planned for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, compared with previous periods, is as follows:

(Number of participants)

	International			*National*			*Military and police personnel*		
	Actual 2007/08	*Planned 2008/09*	*Proposed 2009/10*	*Actual 2007/08*	*Planned 2008/09*	*Proposed 2009/10*	*Actual 2007/08*	*Planned 2008/09*	*Proposed 2009/10*
Internal	219	776	1 055	500	457	767	0	48	0
External[a]	24	24	42	55	73	75	0	172	0
Total	**243**	**800**	**1 097**	**555**	**530**	**842**	**0**	**220**	**0**

[a] Includes United Nations Logistics Base and outside the mission area.

157. The Base will continue to implement and deliver training programmes through the utilization of a centralized structure designed to strengthen the substantive and technical skills, as well as to upgrade the leadership, management and organizational skills, of international and national staff. The increase in the number of international and national staff participants for the 2009/10 period reflects the expected increase in the number of new arrivals and staff requiring training following the expansion of the support activities of the Base, including the Tenant Units. The reduction to nil of the number of military and police participants is the result of a decision to limit the training provided by the Integrated Training Service to the delivery of civilian predeployment training programmes.

III. Analysis of variances[1]

Reference

The present section describes the single largest contributing factor of each resource variance according to specific standard options encompassed in the four standard categories listed below:

- **Mandate**: variances caused by changes in the scale or scope of the mandate, or changes in the expected accomplishments as driven by the mandate
- **External**: variances caused by parties or situations external to the United Nations
- **Cost parameters**: variances caused by United Nations regulations, rules and policies
- **Management**: variances caused by management actions to achieve planned results more effectively (e.g. by reprioritizing or adding certain outputs) or efficiently (e.g. by taking measures to reduce personnel or operational inputs while maintaining the same level of outputs) and/or from performance-related issues (e.g. by having underestimated the costs or quantities of inputs required to produce a certain level of outputs, or by delayed recruitment)

	Variance	
International staff	$10 520.0	145.4%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

158. The additional requirements are attributable to the salaries and related costs for 99 additional international staff (1 D-2, 1 D-1, 6 P-5, 36 P-4, 43 P-3, 3 P-2 and 9 Field Service), of which 25 relate to the relocation of the Standing Police Capacity from New York to Brindisi, 48 relate to the strengthening of the Standing Police Capacity and 6 relate to the conversion of general temporary assistance positions to posts. A vacancy rate of 15 per cent has been applied.

	Variance	
National staff	$4 411.1	33.8%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

159. The additional requirements are attributable to an increase in the monthly General Service salary (from euro 4,573 in 2008/09 to euro 4,707) and to the salaries and related costs for 73 additional staff at the national General Service

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent or $100,000.

level. Of those posts, 34 relate to individuals who are under long-term contracts that are due to expire in 2009 and who perform core functions at the Base. A further 14 posts relate to the conversion to posts of general temporary assistance positions, which is partially offset by an increase in the applied vacancy rate from 5 per cent in 2008/09 to 10 per cent in 2009/10.

	Variance	
General temporary assistance	($1 541.7)	(64.0%)

- **Management: reduced outputs and inputs**

160. The reduction in requirements reflects a decrease in the number of general temporary assistance positions from 29 to 12 owing to the conversion to posts of 6 international (1 P-4, 3 P-3 and 2 Field Service) and 14 national positions in line with the determination that those functions are core and continuing. The reduction also reflects the abolishment of one position (national General Service). The reduction in requirements is offset in part by requirements for the establishment of four additional national General Service positions.

	Variance	
Consultants	$227.3	49.3%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

161. The provisions reflect increased requirements for consultants, both training- and non-training-related. The proposed non-training consultants include engineering consultancy services for safety supervision and the certification of works carried out by contractors employed by the Base. The provisions also include consultancy services for the Communications and Information Technology Services, including for the review of existing ICT service management processes and recommendations for process re-engineering and for the performance of gap analysis and validation of the network design and implementation for the current data centre.

162. The increased requirements for training consultants are attributable to an increase in the number of in-house courses offered to participants, comprising the staff of the Base, the Tenant Units and field missions.

	Variance	
Official travel	$195.2	21.1%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

163. The additional requirements are attributable largely to non-training-related official travel, owing mainly to increased provisions of $319,000 for travel by Tenant Unit staff and the additional resources of $60,000 required to establish the facility at Site B, Valencia. This increase is offset by reduced requirements for training-related official travel as a result of the decision of the Base to centralize and better utilize the training centre at the Base to host training programmes.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	$6 437.5	102.2%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

164. The additional requirements are attributable primarily to: the construction services planned for phase 1 of the offices for the Communications and Information Technology Services, the data centre and network communications centre; the upgrade of the electrical system; and other construction work, including the new vehicular entrance to the Logistics Sector, and the installation of service and staff elevators in buildings 94 and 254.

165. The budget includes additional requirements for maintenance services and utilities for the additional buildings and open areas which were provided by the Government of Italy through the second addendum to the memorandum of understanding. In addition, the budget includes provision for the additional resources required in line with the establishment of Site B, at Valencia, Spain.

166. The increase is offset in part by reduced requirements for building alterations and renovation.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	$188.7	25.1%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

167. The additional requirements for resources are attributable primarily to the acquisition of 1 minibus to support the activities of the Standing Police Capacity and the acquisition of 12 light sedans. The latter are replacement vehicles, since the ones currently in use are over 8 years old and have exceeded the approved guidelines for vehicle replacement. The budget also includes the amount of $23,000 for vehicle rental and fuel for the establishment of the facility at Site B, Valencia. The increase is offset in part by reduced requirements for vehicle workshop equipment owing to the availability of sufficient stock.

	Variance	
Communications	$1 759.5	34.5%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

168. The additional requirements are attributable to the acquisition and installation of a videoconferencing terminal for the training centre and the replacement of communications equipment that has reached the end of its lifespan and is beyond economical repair. The additional requirements are owing to provisions for communications equipment for the proposed new staff arriving at the Base during the budget period, an increase in the cost from $6,510 to $8,400 per person/month for international communications contractors, and $376,900 for the establishment of the facility at Site B, Valencia.

	Variance	
Information technology	$2 429.9	43.3%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

169. The additional requirements are attributable to provisions for information technology equipment for the proposed new staff arriving at the Base during the budget period, as well as increased requirements for centralized information technology services for personal computers and laptops and to support e-mail accounts, including $742,900 for the establishment of the facility at Site B, Valencia.

	Variance	
Medical	$61.0	17.3%

- **Management: additional outputs and inputs**

170. The additional requirements are attributable to provisions for storage for the personal protection equipment component of the influenza pandemic contingency stockpile, currently warehoused in Germany, and for the Tamiflu capsule component of the influenza pandemic contingency stockpile, currently warehoused at facilities of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Denmark. The provisions include requirements for inventory management and preventive maintenance.

	Variance	
Other supplies, services and equipment	($2 173.2)	(61.2%)

- **Management: reduced outputs and inputs**

171. The reduced requirements are the result of the termination of long-term contracts in 2009 for temporary individual contractors and the subsequent proposal to establish 34 national General Service posts. The termination of the long-term contracts is attributable to Italian labour legislation, which does not permit the use of contractual staff to perform functions of an ongoing nature for extended periods.

172. The decrease is offset in part by increased requirements for training-related expenses owing to the increased demand for technical training as well as the replacement of various packing machines, such as pallet jacks, film-wrapping machines and sea containers, which have reached the end of their lifespan and are beyond economical repair. The budget also includes additional resources in the amount of $101,500 that are required in line with the approved proposal to establish the facility at Site B, Valencia.

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

173. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base are:**

(a) Approval of the budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in the amount of $68,284,300 for the maintenance of the Base for the 12-month period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

(b) Proration of the amount in subparagraph (a) among individual active peacekeeping operation budgets to meet the financing requirements of the Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.

V. Summary of follow-up action taken to implement the decisions and requests made by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/276 and requests and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions endorsed by the Assembly, and of the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services

A. Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

(A/62/781/Add.12)

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
The Advisory Committee recalled that one of the planned indicators of achievement for UNLB in 2006/07 was a reduction in shipment processing times for strategic deployment stock items from the receipt of the material release order to dispatch to 17 days. The Committee noted that the actual overall average shipment processing time was 31 days and that only 46 per cent of items had been dispatched within the targeted time frame during the performance period. The Committee had been informed that some factors, such as contracting for vessels and aircraft and, on occasion, the need to obtain aircraft landing permission, were not within the control of UNLB. It had therefore been difficult for the Base to achieve the target of 17 days consistently. The Committee urged UNLB to take the necessary measures, including planning and coordinating each step of the process with the parties concerned, in continuing to work towards meeting the targeted time frame (para. 7).	UNLB continues to plan and coordinate with all necessary parties to ensure that shipments are dispatched in the shortest time possible.
The Advisory Committee noted that during 2008/09, the Communications and Information Technology Section would undertake several initiatives, including achieving full compliance with approved information and communications technology standards and the International Organization for Standardization code of practice for information security management. The Committee recommended that information and communications technology initiatives be coordinated with the Chief Information Technology Officer (para. 15).	Implemented.
In its previous report, the Advisory Committee observed that the Secretary-General had identified a number of stand-alone functions at UNLB (see	Implemented. The longer-term perspective on the role and future development of UNLB is provided in annex II of the present report.

A/61/852/Add.14, para. 17). Pursuant to the recommendation of the Committee, the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to report, in the context of the budget proposal for 2009/10, on the longer-term perspective on the role and future development of UNLB addressing, inter alia, the basis for placing certain functions at the Base, taking into account the support provided by the host country (General Assembly resolution 61/277, para. 14). According to the Secretary-General, the proposed budget for 2009/10 would also take into account any developments in respect of the United Nations system-wide enterprise resource planning system, disaster recovery and business continuity and a global United Nations communications hub.

With respect to decisions on the establishment of logistics functions, the Secretary-General indicated that, as recommended by the Advisory Committee, decisions would be based on an analysis that takes into account the projected associated costs and overhead, weighed against potential benefits, including savings, productivity and other qualitative gains (see A/61/852/Add.14, para. 17). The Committee underscored the importance of the forthcoming longer-term perspective in clarifying the concept and functions of UNLB. It emphasized that the rationale for the placement of functions should take currency fluctuations and adjustments in the cost of living into account (paras. 17 and 18).

The Advisory Committee was informed that the Department of Safety and Security, in its assessment, had indicated that there was a vital need to provide adequate security coverage of the UNLB stocks, the value of which is estimated at over $150 million. One of the greatest deterrents to potential theft and sabotage is the installation of closed-circuit television and motion-detection sensors, but without proper monitoring to assess and take action on incidents, those measures are ineffective. UNLB today comprises 22 warehouses, 12 workshops and technical buildings, 18 office buildings, a training centre and 12 open areas. The Committee noted that the host Government provides perimeter security to UNLB and rapid response to any security incident on the Base. The Committee pointed out that, in the light of the security assessment by the Department of Safety and Security, the Secretariat should approach the host Government with a view to finding the most effective way of ensuring the

In response to the Department of Safety and Security assessment of UNLB undertaken in 2007, additional closed-circuit television cameras were installed at strategic locations in UNLB exclusive use areas, and the recruitment of the additional security personnel approved in the 2008/09 budget has fulfilled many of the requirements of the security assessment. In addition, subsequent to the meetings held between the Italian Air Force and UNLB at which the security assessment was discussed, the perimeter fence around the Base has been repaired, and motion-detection sensors have been placed in strategic locations. Those actions, together with the completion of the perimeter security road, all at the expense of the Government of Italy, have considerably enhanced the security of the Base.

safety and security of UNLB premises, facilities and assets (para. 25).

The Advisory Committee noted that a proposal had been made for the conversion of nine contractual positions into eight national General Service posts and one general temporary assistance position. Under Italian law, temporary contracts cannot be for longer than three years, and the option of hiring temporary agency workers under open-ended staff leasing contracts, allowing for contractors to be employed for longer periods of time, is no longer possible. Workers are not permitted to be released and then rehired under a different contract if they are to carry out the same functions. Consequently, after July 2009, all temporary contracts of personnel performing logistical support functions who have been employed at UNLB for three years will have to be terminated and UNLB will not be able to replace them with other temporary personnel for the same functions. The Committee has no objection to the proposed conversions. The Committee was informed that other United Nations operations in Europe had not as yet experienced the types of difficulties encountered by UNLB regarding its temporary workforce. In other missions and offices in Europe, services of individuals (e.g. for maintenance, janitorial services and vehicle repair) were obtained through contracts with service providers and not through an agency when continuous services were required. The Committee expressed the view that UNLB should explore similar options. In the opinion of the Committee, the General Assembly may wish to request the International Civil Service Commission to look into this matter, with a view to ascertaining its potential impact, if any, on the organizations of the United Nations system (see also A/62/781, para. 37) (para. 27).

In a concerted effort to solve this long outstanding issue of independent contractors and temporary personnel, UNLB has reviewed the roles currently occupied by the remaining 40 Logistics Support Services temporary personnel, which has resulted in a proposal in the 2009/10 budget to establish 34 core posts, which will result in no personnel being employed on a temporary contract for long periods as has been the case in the past.

The Advisory Committee drew attention to the observations and recommendations concerning training in peacekeeping contained in its general report on United Nations peacekeeping operations. Moreover, the Committee expected that the forthcoming report on training strategy would provide an analysis of the optimum venues and conditions for training, including training that could be most effectively provided regionally. The Committee also expected that the report would include information on how Member States are apprised of opportunities at UNLB (para. 32).

The Secretary-General submitted a report on the progress of training in peacekeeping (A/63/680) to the General Assembly for consideration at its resumed sixty-third session. The report included an analysis of the roles and responsibilities related to training, an update on progress and developments in peacekeeping training, as well as on training venues and options.

Member States are not apprised of training opportunities at UNLB, as training for Member States is not conducted at the Base. The Integrated Training Service now operates at the strategic level and is working to provide enhanced

	advice, guidance and assistance to Member States and peacekeeping training partners in the conduct of their courses, rather than actually conducting courses itself. The Integrated Training Service will only conduct courses that are applicable to all, or most, components of United Nations peacekeeping.
As regards the organizational structure of the Base, the Advisory Committee recalled its previous observation that the Tenant Units, which are administered by the Base, would be placed under the operational control of Headquarters in New York. The Committee noted that its observation on the Tenant Units had not been addressed in the budget document (A/62/769). It recommended that the Secretary-General include in the next budget submission clarification of reporting lines for the Units (para. 33).	Implemented. The Tenant Units are under the operational control of their parent sections in the Department of Field Support at Headquarters; however, they are administered by the Base.
In connection with the Recruitment and Outreach Unit, the Advisory Committee recalls that the Unit was included in the budget submission for the period 2007/08 as a pilot project funded from general temporary assistance. The Secretary-General indicated that if the concept proved to be effective, provisions for a Recruitment and Outreach Tenant Unit might be included in subsequent budget submissions, as appropriate (A/61/752, para. 17). The Committee noted that no proposal on changing the mode of funding of the Unit was contained in the budget submission for 2008/09. The Committee observed that the evaluation of the pilot project of an off-site recruitment and outreach unit is still pending. The Committee requested that the results of the evaluation be included in the forthcoming longer-term perspective on the role and future development of UNLB (para. 34).	Implemented (see annex II to the present report).
The Advisory Committee welcomed the fact that the GIS Centre had become operational as from 31 December 2007 and that it provided mapping and support services to peacekeeping operations, such as UNAMID and UNIFIL. Nevertheless, the Committee pointed out that the Secretary-General had not responded substantively to the Committee's request for an analysis of the GIS Centre and the Engineering Design Unit (see A/61/852/Add.14, paras. 31 and 33). The Committee requested that the Secretary-General submit the analysis in the context of the proposed budget for UNLB for 2009/10 (para. 35).	Implemented (see annex III to the present report).

The estimated value of non-budgeted voluntary contributions in kind by the Government of Italy for 2008/09 would amount to $2,670,700. This included the value of the exclusive use of office buildings, workshops, warehouse structures and open space ($2,031,700), three new buildings provided for under addendum II to the memorandum of understanding with the Government of Italy ($600,000) and facilities at San Pancrazio ($39,000). The Advisory Committee was also informed that UNLB was paying only for "excess cost" attributable to runway maintenance (wear and tear) as a proportion of aircraft tonnage attributable to the missions. UNLB is not paying for costs attributable to flight operations such as landing and navigational charges, ground handling services, parking fees, security and firefighting. The Committee took note of the contributions of the Government of Italy and expressed the hope that in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/231, the signing of the aforementioned addendum to the memorandum of understanding would be expedited (para. 36).	UNLB confirms that the second addendum to the memorandum of understanding was signed by the Government of Italy and the United Nations in August 2008.

(A/62/781)

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
The Advisory Committee recalled that in a number of missions there had been problems with excessive stocks of spare parts or operational problems due to delays in the delivery of spares. The Committee noted that measures had been taken to improve the management of vehicle spare parts (A/62/727, paras. 55 and 56). Upon enquiry, it was informed that the Secretariat was exploring additional measures, including arranging with manufacturers to hold stocks and to dispatch spare parts directly to missions to minimize delays. The Committee took note of these initiatives and suggested that the Secretariat consider whether UNLB could play a role in improving the management of vehicle spare parts (para. 55).	UNLB plays a central role in overall fleet management and continues to hold fast-moving spare parts for strategic deployment stocks as well as spare parts from liquidated missions in the United Nations reserve inventory. With the establishment of systems contracts as a consequence of the standardization of the Department of Field Support vehicle fleet, the acquisition of spare parts was greatly simplified. Extensive training on spare parts management was organized in partnership with systems contract vendors to achieve a high level of proficiency in the ordering of spare parts at the mission level. Taking advantage of the improved global logistics, it was felt that direct shipments from suppliers' global warehouses to the mission areas would not only improve the availability of spare parts as required, but would also result in reduced stock levels in mission and UNLB warehouses, leading to greater efficiencies. This approach also reduced the risk of double handling, double shipping costs and the administrative workload. In view of the above, the option of a centralized strategy for a distribution system based on one central warehouse in UNLB was discarded as it would increase the Base's recurrent costs for keeping inventory, warehouses and storeroom personnel. Furthermore, it

	would result in UNLB assuming the risk of inventory depreciation and overstocking. The current spare parts supply chains to the missions are closely monitored at Headquarters, and any identified impediments are rapidly resolved in consultation with the mission, the Procurement Division and vendors.

B. Board of Auditors

(A/62/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Expendable property	
The Board noted that there had been no disclosure of the value of expendable property in the financial statements, although significant amounts of such property were held at UNLB and at the various missions. For example, at the end of the period under review, there were stocks of tyres and batteries worth at least $33 million (para. 100).	The missions' financial statements are prepared in accordance with United Nations policies, which currently do not require disclosure of expendable property.
The Board recommended that the Administration consider disclosing in the financial statements the value of unused expendable property at the end of the financial period in order to improve transparency, accountability and financial reporting, and in preparation for the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (para. 102).	
Strategic deployment stocks	
Rotation	
It was noted that no mechanism was in place to identify when items could no longer be used. As a result, at the time of the audit, 5,348 items from the engineering and transport units were about to become obsolete. There was need therefore to rotate the use of the items to minimize risk of wastage. UNLB indicated that it continued to enforce the first-in-first-out issuance of items and to monitor the ageing of the inventory. The Board recommended that the Administration enhance its existing Galileo inventory management system by instituting a trigger mechanism that would indicate when a strategic deployment stock item was about to become obsolete (paras. 143 and 144).	UNLB and the Department of Field Support have effective processes in place to manage strategic deployment stocks operations, including rotation plans for strategic deployment stock items which have limited shelf life or items which would otherwise become obsolete. The stock rotation plans are integrated with mission procurement planning, and these also take into consideration the annual composition review. As the Galileo inventory management system contains information on all strategic deployment stocks assets and expendables in stock by generic and item descriptions, bar code, quantity, value, entry-on-duty date and life expectancy, any trigger mechanism would be ancillary to the totality of the current process. As the Department of Field Support is effectively monitoring the ageing of its inventory, it does not agree there is a need for a trigger mechanism to flag the ageing of inventories. This recommendation has been requested for closure.

Procurement and contract management

Vendor performance reports

During the current audit, the Board noted a number of deficiencies in relation to the completion of vendor performance reports, as follows:

At UNLB, based on sample tests carried out, performance ratings of vendors had been limited to: (a) goods and services over $50,000; (b) shipments; (c) training courses; (d) engineering projects; and (e) the period prior to the renewal or extension of the existing contract. The Procurement Manual, however, requires that the performance of all contractors, without exception, be evaluated to determine their ability to comply satisfactorily with future contractual obligations. The Board recommended that the Administration take steps to ensure that all missions strictly comply with the requirements of the Procurement Manual dealing with the evaluation of vendor performance (paras. 207 and 208).

Implemented. Reference is made to the comment in paragraph 60 of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors (A/62/5 (Vol. II), chap. II) (A/62/784), that the web portal through which missions provide their performance reports was fully operational and that the missions were current in the submission of vendor performance evaluation reports. UNLB has implemented procedures to ensure that performance evaluation reports on local vendors are completed by the self-accounting units and are submitted to the Procurement Section. UNLB has implemented a system whereby no contract extension is approved unless a vendor performance report is first submitted to the Procurement Section.

Information and communications technology

Security standards and procedures

The functions dedicated to the development and enforcement of information and communications technology standards and procedures have not been established, although UNLB had requested funding to do so in its 2007/08 budget. UNLB indicated that it had reiterated the request in the 2008/09 budget. The complexity and scope of operations at UNLB are crucial to peacekeeping efforts, and the information and communications technology operational management should ensure that there is no interruption of the services and that infrastructure is maintained at all times. Poor tactical or operational decisions would have a negative impact on all peacekeeping and many other operations throughout the world. Failure to provide the necessary services, or any interruption of service, could compromise or jeopardize peacekeeping activities. The Board recommended that UNLB, in conjunction with United Nations Headquarters, expedite the establishment of a function dedicated to the development and enforcement of information and communications technology security standards and procedures (paras. 272-274).

Implemented.

Annex I

Proposed organizational chart of the United Nations Logistics Base for 2009/10

Office of the Director, United Nations Logistics Base
1 D-2[a], 1 D-1[a,c], 1 P-3, 1 FS[b], 3 NS, 1 NS
Security Office
7 NS[b], 2 NS, 1 NS[b]
Reference Checking Unit
6 NS[a], 1 NS[b]
Standing Police Capacity
1 D-1[a], 4 P-5[a], 2 P-5[b], 16 P-4[a], 14 P-4[b], 26 P-3[a], 8 P-3[b], 2 FS[a], 1 NS[a], 2 NS[b]
Office of the Chief, UNLB Support Services
1 P-5, 2 NS
Office of the Chief, Logistics Support Services
1 P-5, 2 NS
Site B, Valencia
1 P-5[a], 2 P-4[a], 1 FS[a], 2 NS[a]
Office of the Chief, Communications and Information Technology Services
1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-4[a], 2 NS, 2 NS[a]
Engineering Standards and Design Centre
1 P-4[a], 3 P-3[a], 4 NS[a]
Personnel Section
1 P-4, 1 P-3[a], 1 FS, 8 NS, 1 NS[a], 1 NS[b], 2 NS[a,d]
Finance Section
1 P-4, 1 FS, 9 NS
Logistics Operations Section
1 P-4, 2 FS, 25 NS, 3 NS[a]
Supply Section
1 P-4[c], 1 P-3, 15 NS, 6 NS[a]
Operations Section
1 P-4[c], 1 P-3, 1 P-3[b], 6 FS, 7 NS, 2 NS[a]
Systems Section
1 FS, 3 NS
Strategic Air Operations Centre
1 P-4, 2 P-3, 2 P-3[a], 3 FS[a], 1 NS[a]
Procurement Section
1 P-4, 1 P-3[a], 1 FS, 9 NS, 1 NS[a]
Property Management Section
1 P-3, 1 P-2, 1 P-2[a], 12 NS, 3 NS[a]
Transport Section
1 P-4, 2 FS, 1 FS[a], 22 NS, 4 NS[a], 1 NS[b]
Engineering Section
1 P-4, 1 P-3[a], 1 FS, 23 NS, 2 NS[a]
Campus Support Unit
1 FS[a], 6 NS[a], 6 NS[b]
Assets Management Unit
1 NS[a], 9 NS[b]
Technology Infrastructure Unit
1 FS[b], 9 NS[a], 8 NS[b]
Surface Transport Technical Support Unit
1 P-4[a], 1 P-3[a], 1 FS[a]
Regional Aviation Safety Office
1 P-4[a], 2 P-3
Integrated Training Service
1 P-4, 2 P-3, 2 NS
Facilities Management Section
1 FS[b], 12 NS, 7 NS[a], 2 NS[b], 1 NS[b]
Medical Clinic
1 P-4[a], 1 NS, 2 NS[a]
GIS Centre
1 P-4, 3 P-3[a], 2 P-2[a], 1 FS[a], 4 NS[a]

Note: Dotted lines denote units reporting operationally to United Nations Headquarters and administratively to UNLB.

Abbreviations: FS, Field Service; NS, National General Service.

[a] New post.

[b] Redeployment.

[c] Reclassification.

[d] General temporary assistance.

[e] Responsible for day-to-day operational delivery of logistics and ICT support to field missions by the Logistics Support Services, Communications and Information Technology Services and the Valencia Site.

Annex II

Report on the longer-term role and proposed future development of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy

I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 61/277, requested the Secretary-General, in the context of the budget proposal for 2009/10 and pursuant to paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/852/Add.14), to report on the longer-term perspective on the role and future development of the United Nations Logistics Base, addressing, inter alia, the basis for placing certain functions at the Base, taking into account the support provided by the host country. The longer-term perspective for the United Nations Logistics Base (UNLB) presented below has taken into account relevant developments in peacekeeping and provides details of the long-term functions and initiatives of the Base and the resources required to support the growing demands. The plan provides the strategic basis for the future of UNLB and the investments that will be required. It is based on the current and projected needs of mission support requirements of the Department of Field Support and may need to be adjusted as conditions demand.

2. UNLB is a critical component of the capability of the Department of Field Support to provide efficient and effective services to field operations. With the implementation of the proposed long-term plan, UNLB will gain greater prominence in the key strategic framework of the Department, which encompasses building on past experience (continuity), collaborating with partners and seeking economies of scale (integration), an action-oriented approach (operational focus) and a field-centric perspective and systematic and replicable processes (professionalism). The capacity and experience of UNLB is a cornerstone of the integrated support concept of the Department of Field Support and includes the additional support capabilities located in Entebbe, Uganda, and those being developed in Valencia, Spain. UNLB is also increasingly becoming an enabling platform for Secretariat-wide activities.

3. The plan builds on the advantages of UNLB, such as its permanent nature, as recognized by the General Assembly in section XIV of its resolution 49/233 A, its proximity to field operations, which facilitates a faster and more cost-efficient service delivery, a safe and secure environment, the existence of in-house expertise leading to greater effectiveness and efficiencies in the field, and a state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure. The present report provides information on existing core functions, the rationale for proposed new activities and the associated investment required.

4. The plan calls for the transitioning of the current mandate of UNLB from that of a logistics base providing logistics and support during mission start-up and liquidation and extended information and communications technology support to one of expanded services and continuous support to missions throughout their life cycle. This expansion is based on a requirement to optimize existing resources and capabilities to meet the growing needs of peace operations and includes: (a) extending current administrative and logistics support beyond mission start-up;

(b) moving Headquarters support functions forward through the introduction of new Tenant Units, such as the Standing Police Capacity and the Surface Transport Technical Support Unit; and (c) extending the Base's support to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes. In addition, UNLB will be an enabling platform for the Secretariat as a whole. In recognition of the evolution of UNLB, it is proposed to change the designation of the facility to the "United Nations Support Base" and create a post of Director of the Base, who would report directly to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support.

5. The present report contains three parts as follows:

(a) Background information on the Base, including details of current services and activities;

(b) An overview of the proposed expanded role of the Base in support of existing and emerging peacekeeping and other United Nations operations;

(c) Information on the required investment to support the proposed expanded role.

II. Background and current services provided by the United Nations Logistics Base

A. Background

6. The United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi, Italy, has been in operation since 1994. The Base comprises 22 warehouses, 12 workshops and technical buildings, 18 office buildings, a training centre and 12 open areas. The total surface area for United Nations exclusive use is 291,344 m^2. UNLB is hosted by the Ministry of Defence of Italy and the Italian Air Force which provides security support to United Nations operations, in addition to premises. The location in Brindisi provides:

(a) A safe and secure environment;

(b) A natural deepwater harbour;

(c) An airport, roads, and rail infrastructure;

(d) A facility within the global communications satellite footprint;

(e) Time zone compatible with most missions;

(f) A well-developed commercial communications infrastructure;

(g) Proximity to field missions (within 5,000 km);

(h) A highly skilled workforce.

B. Mandate

7. The General Assembly, in section XIV of its resolution 49/233 A, welcomed with appreciation the establishment at Brindisi, Italy, of the first permanent United Nations logistics base to support peacekeeping operations, the premises of which had been put at the disposal of the Organization at no cost.

C. Legal framework

8. The relationship between the Government of Italy and the United Nations is governed by a memorandum of understanding signed on 23 November 1994, by which the Government provided to the United Nations the use of military facilities on a rent-free arrangement. The Government of Italy made available additional premises through additional addenda, which were signed in 2001 and 2008. In addition, an amendment to the memorandum of understanding has been drafted, in the form of a protocol, the aim of which is to ensure consistency with the status of United Nations personnel serving in established field missions and to extend the termination notice of the memorandum of understanding to provide greater security of tenure to the United Nations. This protocol is awaiting clearance by the Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Headquarters, and the Government of Italy.

D. Relationships with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes

9. The relationship between UNLB and the World Food Programme (WFP), which is also hosted in the Brindisi Air Force Base, is governed by a memorandum of understanding signed between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the agency on 10 January 2005. The document outlines collaboration in areas of common interest, such as aviation or medical services, on a cost-sharing basis. UNLB also provides logistical support to WFP (the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot), especially in their airlift ground-handling requirements, and provides stand-by capacity to other United Nations operations as required. In addition, the Base provides telecommunications services to some offices away from Headquarters, courts, tribunals and United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. Discussions to extend this assistance to other United Nations agencies and funds are ongoing.

E. Current programmes and activities of the United Nations Logistics Base

10. The support programmes and activities of UNLB have evolved and grown organically since its establishment. Those programmes are as follows:

Logistics Support Services

11. The Logistics Support Services comprises the Logistics Operations, Transport, Supply, and Engineering Sections, which are responsible for maintaining two inventories available for deployment to missions, as follows:

(a) Strategic deployment stocks, the concept of which was approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/292 with an allotment of $141.5 million. Under the current concept, the Chief Administrative Officer of UNLB serves as the custodian of the strategic deployment stocks. Under the direction of the Director of the Logistics Support Division of the Department of Field Support, the Chief Administrative Officer manages the day-to-day operations and maintains the

operational readiness of the stocks. Since 2002, approximately $303 million of materiel from strategic deployment stocks has been issued to 42 field operations;

(b) The United Nations Reserve, which contains surplus assets that have been received from downsizing or liquidated missions and which are refurbished at UNLB for redistribution in support of ongoing operations. The assets of the United Nations Reserve consist mainly of logistics and armoured vehicles, large generators and other items of capital equipment.

12. The Logistics Support Services also deploys technical support teams to assist missions and hosts training programmes at UNLB for relevant logistics and technical areas.

Communications and Information Technology Services

13. From its inception in 1994, UNLB was viewed as an ideal location for a telecommunications hub for United Nations field operations. Its central location, with visibility of all satellites utilized by peace operations and accessibility to a modern commercial telecommunications and information technology infrastructure, made UNLB an ideal location for establishing a telecommunications hub. The establishment of comprehensive logistic support capabilities at the Base also facilitated the launching of information and communications technology (ICT) operations for new missions, supporting the expansion and liquidation of missions and providing direct ICT support to field operations.

14. The ICT support services provided by UNLB have grown in scale, scope and complexity and now include services under the following six broad categories:

(a) Telecommunications/network operations, which include the management of a centralized telecommunications hub, a Network Control Centre, videoconference bridging and support, e-mail and voice switching;

(b) Data centre operations, which include the maintenance and support of servers and storage systems that host mission-specific applications, mission e-mail systems and critical peacekeeping operations data;

(c) Technical support to field missions, which includes a Service Desk, rapid deployment and specialist assistance, rapid deployment capabilities, such as the survey vehicle, the mobile deployable telecommunications system and the rapid deployable telecommunications system, ICT training, and a disaster recovery and business continuity capability (see A/62/477, paras. 46-50);

(d) Management, maintenance and staging of strategic deployment stocks;

(e) Field information systems support;

(f) UNLB campus support.

15. The growth in the utilization of ICT across field missions over the past years has led to an analogous increase in the ICT infrastructure and services provided by UNLB. This growth has also been fuelled by a centralized approach to the provision of ICT services. From 2003 to 2008, the portion of the UNLB budget related to ICT grew by 473 per cent and currently represents approximately 45 per cent of the total operational budget of the Base. The number of ICT personnel supervised now numbers 207.

Tenant Units

16. The UNLB Tenant Units are programmes controlled directly by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support and administered by UNLB. UNLB was identified as a suitable location for the programmes implemented by the Tenant Units in view of its location, proximity to the field and the advantage of being in the same time zone as the majority of field missions. UNLB provides a state-of-the-art ICT environment, with access to a well-developed commercial communications infrastructure. The current Tenant Units at UNLB are described below.

Department of Peacekeeping Operations Integrated Training Service, United Nations Logistics Base Office

17. The Integrated Training Service meets the training needs of over 200,000 peacekeepers worldwide. The headquarters of the Service is in New York and an element in Brindisi as a Tenant Unit. The Service meets training demands by utilizing a centralized structure and defining and delivering strategic training priorities. This is achieved by setting training standards, policies and guidance. The Integrated Training Service delivers training only for needs that cut across functions or that affect major areas of peacekeeping. One such course is the civilian predeployment training conducted at UNLB. The Integrated Training Service UNLB Office delivers the predeployment course for civilian members who are deploying to a peacekeeping mission for the first time or who have not served in a peacekeeping mission for three years or more.

Geographic Information System Centre

18. The Geographic Information System (GIS) Centre of the Cartographic Section was established as a UNLB Tenant Unit in October 2007. As of January 2008, the GIS Centre achieved operational status, carrying out substantive tasks to deliver GIS products (topographic operational maps, satellite image maps and a geo-database) and providing GIS water assessment and terrain analysis, including flooding hazards, to aid selection of camp sites. The GIS Centre also focuses on developing its mandated functional capacity to serve as a secured repository of all mission GIS data and replicating that data to the Cartographic Section at Headquarters to establish a global geo-database in a near real-time environment for United Nations field operations. Other tasks include developing a GIS start-up capacity for new and/or expanded missions, developing, facilitating and conducting GIS training for mission staff, and providing global online GIS applications, such as an integrated global geo-database system, the United Nations Google Earth Enterprise for United Nations peacekeeping, and United Nations gazetteer system, for searching place names in a GIS environment.

Strategic Air Operations Centre

19. The Strategic Air Operations Centre became operational in May 2008 and was established as a Tenant Unit based in UNLB. The Department of Field Support has identified the Strategic Air Operations Centre as the central platform for the management of aircraft deployed for strategic airlift operated in line with the global concept of fleet utilization and segment optimization. This management entails the fleet planning of the strategic airlift and monitoring and tracking of all aircraft

engaged in strategic long- and short-term passenger and cargo airlift movements and inter-mission operations. This is in line with the recommendation made by the ICAO in its review of peacekeeping in 2000. The combined efforts of UNLB and the Air Transport Section of the Department of Field Support has enabled the Strategic Air Operations Centre to provide limited assistance to ongoing strategic airlift support, the reconfiguration of the fleet earmarked for long- and short-term strategic air operations and in strengthening the regional concept of fleet optimization.

Regional Aviation Safety Office

20. The Regional Aviation Safety Office was established in July 2006. The Office serves UNLB and provides safety oversight for the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). The Office reached its full staffing strength in May 2007. Since its establishment, the Regional Aviation Safety Office has demonstrated significant achievements in several critical areas, such as restoring regular assistance visits to affiliated mission, revitalizing the activities of the mission aviation safety councils, updating of the mission accident prevention programmes and emergency response plans, disseminating monthly newsletters and other aviation safety-related information, and developing and introducing the website of the Office.

Engineering Standards and Design Centre

21. The role of the Engineering Standards and Design Centre is to function as the centralized centre for the development of standardized design, scales and templates for engineering works carried out in United Nations field operations. Consequently, the Centre serves as the centralized location from which engineers in field missions can easily access standardized design packages, including drawings, scope of works, bills of quantities and technical specifications as well as useful planning tools and templates which will facilitate the quick and efficient implementation of construction works in the field.

Reference Checking Unit

22. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/277, the Reference Checking Unit of the Field Personnel Division, Department of Field Support, was created in UNLB as a pilot project to carry out reference checks of mission appointees and other mission staff members. The Unit, which currently operates under the immediate supervision of the Chief Civilian Personnel Officer of UNLB, verifies the employment and educational credentials of candidates selected for mission appointments, up to and including the D-2 level.

23. The Unit is presently staffed with six General Service positions, the incumbent of which provide reference checking capabilities in Arabic, English, French and Spanish. The Unit has identified a requirement for capacity in the Russian language.

24. The Unit is known within a wide network of academic institutions worldwide and has established strategic contacts which has enabled the Unit to work faster and more efficiently, leading to a progressive increase in the number of cases handled on a monthly basis since its establishment.

25. Since its creation, the Reference Checking Unit has received 2,525 referrals for reference checks. Of those cases, the Unit has completed reference checks for 1,038 candidates, 789 of which were internal and 249 external. An additional 1,419 cases have been initiated and are yet to be completed. Candidates are checked in the following order of priority, based on the needs of peacekeeping operations: (a) internal and external candidates designated to perform significant functions in the management of financial, human and physical resources and for whom no previous reference checks have been completed; (b) internal and external candidates who have been identified by the Field Personnel Division for reference verification; (c) serving mission staff selected for movement to a position at a higher level for whom no previous reference checks have been completed; (d) external applicants who have already been selected but have not yet had their educational and employment histories verified; and (e) external applicants prior to their inclusion on the rosters of qualified and available candidates for peace operations.

26. In 2008, the Unit received 109 designation cases (priority 1), of which 103 were completed. During its first year of existence, the Reference Checking Unit was also engaged in a number of important and substantive activities related to its establishment, streamlining procedures, capacity-building and increasing its effectiveness. Those activities included establishing best practices for reference checking, providing input for standard operating procedures, creating a repository of contacts and a reference checking database for tracking, reporting and producing statistical data, developing knowledge of worldwide educational systems, establishing strategic contacts in universities, government, ministries, administrations, employers and United Nations agencies and funds, developing and cataloguing information on diploma mills and accreditation institutions, and participating directly in the project team for the business process improvement initiative for reference checking, which involved both the production of statistics and recommendations for streamlining processes and procedures.

27. The Reference Checking Unit currently has the capacity to cover a range of language skills necessary to handle contacts with foreign educational institutions and employers, including Arabic, English, French, Italian, Spanish and Swedish. Those countries that were part of the former Soviet Union and others that use the Cyrillic alphabet account for some 5 per cent of the cases submitted to the Reference Checking Unit. A further 4 to 5 per cent of cases concern nationals of African countries who had studied at universities in the former Soviet Union. Combined, those cases account for almost 9 per cent of the work of the Unit in terms of university education only.

28. Since the establishment of the Unit, about 6 per cent of cases turned out to be negative, almost all owing to misrepresentation of academic achievements. The Department of Field Support is currently introducing field central review body mechanisms to increase the transparency of the roster development function. The field central review bodies will ensure that selection activities in the field will be fully aligned with the standards and vetting mechanisms used at Headquarters.

Mission Deployment Teams

29. Upon request, UNLB has also provided small ad hoc teams from Base core staff to assist missions during start-up and/or expansion. This type of assistance has

been successfully developed by the Communications and Information Technology Services into an established rapid deployment unit.

III. Support to existing and emerging missions: moving forward

A. Introduction

30. The Base is expanding its focus from the provision on materiel support to start-up missions to the provision of continuous support to field missions throughout their life cycles. This change has the potential to achieve significant operational gains across missions through the centralization of common functions.

31. By the financial year 2012/13, the Base will have the resources necessary to provide operationally oriented, results-driven and efficient support to the field operations of the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations, Field Support, Political Affairs, and Safety and Security as well as other agencies, funds and programmes in order to enhance their capabilities to fulfil their mandate throughout the operational life cycle of deployment, sustainment and liquidation and to reduce costs by introducing economies of scale.

32. This plan will be implemented incrementally in four distinct phases, as follows:

Phase 1 — Financial year 2009/10: development of current approved programmes and new initiatives

ICT infrastructure will be constructed, the inventory procedures will be revised, and the infrastructure will be developed further, if so approved by the General Assembly;

Phase 2 — Financial year 2010/11: implementation of newly approved programmes

The infrastructure identified in phase 1 will be constructed, and new cost-effective inventory procedures and the global supply-chain support will be implemented;

Phase 3 — Financial year 2011/12: adaptation and adjustment

The operational procedures of the Base will be adapted to incorporate the lessons learned from the implementation of the programmes. This may include a corresponding adjustment in resource requirements. Further opportunities to leverage the Base's centralized support capacities, including relocating additional functions, from the field and United Nations Headquarters, will also be explored during this period;

Phase 4 — Financial year 2012/13: development and optimization

New procedures, personnel and infrastructure will be developed and optimized to provide the most efficient and effective services.

B. Proposed future activities of the United Nations Logistics Base

33. Future activities are detailed below for each of the Services.

Logistics Support Services

Strategic deployment stocks and the provision of materiel support to missions

Overview

34. The Self Accounting Units at the Base will actively monitor 19 key items of equipment in the global inventory of the Department of Field Support and their availability in the strategic deployment stocks, the United Nations Reserve and missions to ensure that materiel can be accessed and made available for deployment within 90 days or less, thereby eliminating the current situation whereby equipment may not be available. The key items are as follows: mobile and rapidly deployable telecommunications systems, satellite dishes, laptop and desktop computers, VHF radios, 4 x 4 general purpose vehicles, armoured vehicles, PLS-trucks, spare parts, field defence stores, generators, water purification units, accommodation units, ablution units, security equipment, weapons, ammunition and personal protective equipment. This global management of key inventory items will ensure the availability of key equipment in support of missions throughout their life cycles and ensure that the Department of Field Support inventories at the Base are managed in the best possible manner.

Implementation

35. The following actions will be taken during the next four budget periods:

(a) In 2009/10, requirements will be evaluated and remedial action will be undertaken;

(b) In 2010/11, revised procedures will be implemented and the rapid replenishment of strategic deployment stocks key equipment will be facilitated, technical agreements will be developed with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes for logistical support pilot projects, changes directed by strategic deployment stocks policies, accounting guidelines and composition will be implemented and the possibility of systems contract-related replenishment of strategic deployment stocks by UNLB will be studied, and UNLB logistics infrastructure requirements will be implemented;

(c) In 2011/12, the strategic deployment stocks and the United Nations Reserve capabilities and availability will be increased, the UNLB logistic infrastructure will be developed and technical agreements will be implemented;

(d) In 2012/13, procedures and practices will be adjusted, as necessary.

Logistics training and certification programme

Overview

36. The objective of the Programme is to develop and implement an initiative for functional and cross-functional technical training and professional certification for field staff. This initiative will involve the development and delivery of specialized courses and training through the utilization of internal resources and when required,

external contracts. The initiative will include representation from various technical and logistical areas and, where possible, other interrelated or cross-functional partners. The programme will link career progression with staff having to successfully master progressively challenging courses in preparation for higher-level positions. Several types of courses will be offered, such as in-class sessions, self-paced study (where required, exams would be held in a formal class setting) and hands-on training (temporary placement within a Section).

Implementation

37. It is envisaged that the programme will be developed as follows:

(a) In 2009/10, a programme development team will be established and modules courses will be defined and the training needs of field staff will be assessed;

(b) In 2010/11, early implementation of the programme will begin in UNLB in advance of any broader roll-out of the programme;

(c) In 2011/12, the programme will be implemented in UNLB and other locations, as deemed necessary.

Communications and Information Technology Services

38. The long-term plan for ICT support is aligned with the overall plan for the Base, in addition to the global ICT vision and strategy of the Department of Field Support and the Office of Information and Communications Technology. The ICT infrastructure and facilities at the Base are considered as strategic assets, not only for peace operations, but also for the Organization as a whole.

39. The delivery of ICT services to United Nations field operations is constrained by the challenging operating environment on the ground, namely, the absence of local reliable telecommunications infrastructure that is dependable, which calls for a heavy reliance on satellite and wide area network communications. All strategic planning in the delivery of services and support to field missions is made within the context of this operating reality.

40. To date, the Base has served primarily as a stock depot and telecommunications hub for field missions owing to its proximity to theatres of operation. As the scope and complexity of peacekeeping operations continue to increase, it is envisaged that the Base will be repositioned as a strategic provider of enhanced ICT services designed to meet the expected challenges of future peacekeeping requirements, while minimizing the ICT resources required in field missions. Using the most appropriate technologies available, the Base will seek to meet those objectives through the implementation of key initiatives in the following areas over the coming years: (a) an increase in the use of network capacity, virtualization and consolidation of servers and infrastructure; (b) use of the Software as a Service (SaaS) model of standardization and centralization of information systems services and support through the Internet (light footprint); (c) use of open source software; (d) expansion of the use of a mobile team of ICT specialists; and (e) establishment of an increased capacity and support for centralized back-office administration.

ICT Infrastructure

Overview

41. The current facilities at the Base are inadequate for the satellite- and terrestrial-based telecommunications and data storage requirements forecast for peace operations. These include strategic voice, data and video switching, routing and bridging, and data storage. In order to meet those requirements, the Base will initiate the construction of a new and permanent infrastructure to host ICT equipment.

Site B: Valencia

Overview

42. The development of a centralized hub for telecommunications, data storage and disaster recovery and business continuity at Brindisi fulfilled an ever-increasing requirement for efficient and cost-effective telecommunications and information technology services for field operations. Although benefiting from economies of scale and gained efficiencies, the limitation of operations to a single site presents an enormous risk of compromising field missions' core functions, should a failure occur. The General Assembly, in its resolution 63/262, approved the establishment of a geographically redundant, secondary active telecommunications facility at Valencia, Spain, to support peace operations and ensure the integrity of the core ICT functions of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Field Support (see A/62/477, paras. 51-64). The Base will provide administrative support for the facility.

Regional ICT facility in Entebbe, Uganda

Overview

43. Tier 2 of the disaster recovery and business continuity plan of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Field Support (see A/62/477, paras. 41-45) calls for an in-theatre, off-site facility to be established, based on field mission assessments that would ensure the availability of a secure operating environment in the event of an incident requiring the immediate and short-term evacuation/relocation of mission personnel. Key staff would be relocated to the standby facility located outside the area affected by the disturbance to continue mission-critical operations. Entebbe, Uganda, has been selected as the tier 2 facility for the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi, the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT). Owing to its close proximity to the above missions and ideal available facilities, certain other ICT support functions are currently located in Entebbe. These include utilizing Entebbe both as a virtual warehouse for ICT equipment and for the provision of regional ICT training. Other initiatives to expand ICT operations in Entebbe are under consideration.

Establishment of a dedicated facility for non-Department of Field Support ICT support

Overview

44. In relation to the utilization of the ICT facilities in Brindisi, non-Department of Field Support entities of the Secretariat and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes have expressed the concern that during high-activity and crisis situations, the Department of Field Support may not provide optimal services to operations that are not supported by the Department, as services to the Departments of Field Support and Peacekeeping Operations will always take precedence. Other concerns expressed relate to the possibility that should the operations of the Department of Field Support be significantly downsized, sufficient capacity may not be available for non-Department of Field Support clients. In order to address those concerns, increase the usage of those facilities and ensure that the new enterprise systems can be effectively hosted at the Base for the entire Secretariat, the Department of Field Support intends to provide a separate capacity within the UNLB campus. This separate capacity will be used, inter alia, for Secretariat activities, including the establishment of the disaster recovery and business continuity capability for the Organization that was approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/262. In addition, major enterprise application initiatives, such as enterprise resource planning, customer relationship management and enterprise content management, will be implemented as part of an enterprise approach to the provision of automated solutions and utilized throughout the Secretariat. Those centrally hosted and managed systems will require a robust and fault-tolerant infrastructure. The data centre could be managed by the International Computing Centre and modelled on the tenant unit concept.

Light footprint

Overview

45. ICT personnel in field missions support the infrastructure of local resident systems (hardware and software) as well as mission end-users. ICT services will be centralized at the Base to the greatest extent possible, thus reducing and optimizing ICT resources, including the equipment and infrastructure deployed in field missions. This will reduce transportation costs, achieve economies of scale in the provision of infrastructure, end-user support and maintenance, thus reducing personnel costs. In addition to the centralization of hardware and infrastructure, the Department of Field Support will continue to pursue the consolidation of core software applications with industry standard platforms. This strategy is enabled by the addition of commercially available fibre-optic services and infrastructure, resulting in the significant reduction of the number of costly stand-alone systems deployed in the field. Technologies are evolving that will facilitate monitoring networks in field missions. By utilizing those virtual service desk technologies, support personnel will be able to remotely diagnose and solve many ICT-related problems.

Implementation

46. The following activities are planned:

(a) In 2009/10, Occupy satellite farm, phase 1 of the data centre at Brindisi and the first phase of construction at Valencia will be completed. The additional data centre for non-Department of Field Support ICT support will be completed. Phase 2 of the establishment of the telecommunications hub in Valencia, Spain, will begin. UNLB will also complete the virtualization in its data facilities and assist missions in introducing those technologies;

(b) In 2010/11, phase 2 of the data centre at Brindisi and phase 2 of construction and development at Valencia will be completed. The Base will also complete a pilot implementation of various wide area network optimization and application accelerator technologies which will improve performance and user experience when accessing centrally hosted applications over the satellite network. The Base will then facilitate the widespread introduction of those technologies in field missions. It will also complete the implementation of the virtual service desk technologies and establish the capacity to provide remote support;

(c) In 2011/12, Occupy data centres in UNLB and site B, Valencia.

Tenant Units

47. The initiatives for each Tenant Unit are set out below. In addition, the Department of Field Support and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations will continue to explore the advantages of establishing additional capacity in Brindisi, where cost-effective, including the establishment of potential warehousing and refurbishing medical equipment and further surface transport support activities.

Integrated Training Service, UNLB Office

Overview

48. The relocation of the Integrated Training Service posts from New York to the Brindisi training centre was approved under the UNLB budget for 2006/07. The move was intended to achieve savings in travel funds by co-locating training staff at the venue that conducts the civilian predeployment training courses. On the basis of the civilian predeployment training output for 2007/08 (772 participants in 28 courses), the move realized an estimated saving of $1,341,000. However, those savings were limited to the civilian predeployment training only. The other training functions necessary to support Member States by setting training standards, policies and guidance for the police and military has not resulted in savings and it is therefore proposed that the five dedicated posts be moved from UNLB back to New York in order to realign the functions of those posts with the primary client base.

Implementation

49. Dedicated training rooms will be required for up to 30 participants per room, and five posts will be relocated back to New York. It is intended that the P-5 civilian will continue to lead the Integrated Training Service Field Training Support Team from New York. The four seconded military and police posts will continue their function in support of the Member States Team. They will then be able to operate in the same time zone and geographical area. Most importantly they will be close to

their primary client representatives in the Permanent Missions to the United Nations.

Geographic Information System Centre

Overview

50. The GIS Centre will continue to develop core capacity-building in support of rapid mission start-up leading to improvements in peacekeeping operational readiness.

Implementation

51. The Centre will complete the Darfur mapping project and provide GIS analysis of underground water assessment for UNAMID and MINURCAT; provide global geo-visualization systems to all supported missions; provide GIS technical advice, training and support to all missions with a GIS capacity; and deploy at least one GIS start-up team to new missions, as required.

52. In addition, the Centre will develop standard technical guidelines and manuals of core GIS technology; continue the development and implementation of training for mission GIS staff; assess new and emerging technologies to assist field GIS operations; enhance the GIS data content of the global geo-visualization systems for full access by missions as well as Headquarters through geo-data hub facilities for data replication; and foster collaboration with appropriate technical organizations.

Strategic Air Operations Centre

Overview

53. By establishing the Strategic Air Operations Centre in Brindisi, the regionalized approach to aviation support will be fully implemented and further strengthened in an integrated manner in West and East Africa. This support will evolve into a global integrated fleet management concept to support aviation needs worldwide while increasing the operational efficiency of the current fleet.

Implementation

54. The installation of technical tools and the provision of new accommodations will be aimed at consolidating and stabilizing the establishment of the SAOC and controlling, monitoring and managing inter-mission support flights, VIP flights and mission flying operations, such as evacuation and search and rescue operations. The Centre will deliver flight operation policies, guidance and standardization for integrated global flight operations 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including the development of aviation specifications; technical analysis and selection of new cost-efficient aircraft; promote the identification and implementation of measures to reduce the amount of fuel consumed and lower the fuel-spend associated; implementation of new flight schedules and route structure. The Centre will undertake global functions in support of peacekeeping operations, as Operations Officers for air transport operations.

Regional Aviation Safety Office

Overview

55. The Regional Aviation Safety Office will expand its coverage area and will provide aviation safety oversight to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq and will continue to deliver aviation safety induction training for newly recruited field aviation safety staff and to provide technical assistance to the UNLB Safety Council and other established committees.

Implementation

56. The Regional Aviation Safety Office will serve as an information resource and coordination centre to all affiliated missions with regard to the implementation of the Department of Field Support policy on aviation operational risk management. The Office will continue to provide support to start-up missions through risk assessments and other aviation safety activities. The Office will play a significant role during the process of ISO 9001 certification for Department of Field Support aviation safety. In addition, there will be further consolidation of and improvements to the quality of the aviation safety awareness information provided to missions, including improving its web-based resources.

Engineering Standards and Design Centre

Overview

57. The Engineering Standards and Design Centre plans to enhance its capabilities and to assume responsibility for product specifications in support of systems contracts and "green" technology to be introduced to the field. It will provide mission-specific engineering support, particularly during start-ups, will manage and coordinate induction and training of engineering staff in missions, and will provide management of the engineer supply chain.

Implementation

58. The development of the engineer database will continue to incorporate improvements from lessons learned. The Centre will also provide support to field missions in the start-up phase and will initiate actions to establish an engineering standards library that will be accessible to all field missions. It will focus on "green" technologies and resources, develop a product specification capability to support systems contract development, and complete the establishment of the engineering standards library. The Centre will initiate the development of an engineer training capacity with the aim of assuming responsibility for all mission engineer induction and technical training and will convert the engineering database from a Lotus Notes-based to a web-based system. The Centre will then implement global mission engineer training management, including enhanced engineer induction training at Brindisi, and will establish an engineer Supply Chain Management Unit within ESDC, including engineer systems contract development, contract management and engineer asset management.

Standing Police Capacity

Overview

59. The Standing Police Capacity was established pursuant to resolution 60/1, in which the Assembly endorsed the creation of an initial operating capability for a standing police capacity to provide coherent, effective and responsive start-up capability for the police components of United Nations peacekeeping operations and to assist existing missions through the provision of advice and expertise. Given the field focus of the Standing Police Capacity that will be established, it was envisaged that it would be relocated to Brindisi.

Implementation

60. At the request of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, a High-Level Panel of Experts has reviewed the initial operations of the Standing Police Capacity. The Panel highlighted the vital role played by United Nations police in reforming, restructuring and rebuilding host Government law enforcement services after civil wars, as well as their increasing responsibilities in interim law enforcement and assistance provided to Governments in maintaining and restoring public order. In recognition of the increasing demand for United Nations police, the Panel recommended that the Standing Police Capacity be relocated from New York to Brindisi and strengthened, as reflected in the proposal to increase its capacity from 27 to 76. This increased capacity would allow the Standing Police Capacity to focus on more than one new operation at a time, which is currently not possible. This strength may be adjusted in line with further operational experience and evolving demands.

Surface Transport Technical Support Unit

Overview

61. Over the past seven years, there has been a significant increase in the quantity and value of Surface Transport Section inventory, as well as the number of active systems contracts to be managed. As the size of the vehicle fleet has increased, the demand for specialized and hi-tech vehicles has also surged and this trend is expected to continue in the future. Accordingly, and to address those challenges, the Surface Transport Section at Headquarters has introduced or enhanced certain areas within its own structure, such as safety, vehicle liability insurance, supply chain, procurement and mission support. However, deficiencies in other areas have been identified that need to be addressed in order to increase the Organization's capabilities in the short term. Those capabilities are as follows: implementation of a surface transport capacity development programme that would enable field mission staff to increase their knowledge beyond their initial qualifications, as well as to maintain, upgrade and update their technical and management skills; establishment of capacity to control, standardize and systematize those methodologies that are to be used in monitoring manufacturers' warranty management issues and factory recalls; development of a unified methodology that allows the implementation and monitoring of the surface transport codification of expendable and non-expendable inventory, thus providing a comprehensive analysis of the surface transport property management and logistic support performance trends; and provision of technical support and recommendations for the implementation of corrective action in real

time. With this initiative, a culture of excellence would be created within surface transport elements in field missions.

Implementation

62. The initial capacity will be established in the 2009/10 period, including the development of procedures, guidelines, software requirements and the business plan for the Unit. The recruitment of key personnel will also be a priority. The focus will then shift to the establishment of the technical and specialized support element through the planning and development of the technical help desk, which will provide comprehensive advice on warranty claims, recall procedures and trouble-shooting.

Reference Checking Unit

63. In the 2009/10 period, the Unit will continue to carry out reference checks of mission appointees and other mission staff members. The human resource reforms approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/250 will have an impact on the activities of the Unit. Staff members on fixed-term appointments seeking to be placed on the roster and therefore considered as internal candidates would have to have their educational qualifications validated by the Unit. In addition, the Unit would also have to carry out reference checks for staff selected for peace operations as they would no longer be limited to service within their mission but would equally be considered for all field operations and Headquarters posts.

64. The role and responsibility of the Reference Checking Unit are expected to expand. Of note is the recent development whereby the Department of Field Support agreed with the Investigation Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to complete reference checks that are essential to the successful completion of its investigations. The full scope of this agreement both on resources and prioritization, are being developed.

Administrative services in support of existing and emerging operations

Enhancement of training and conference services

Overview

65. The objective of this initiative is to expand current facilities into a professional learning environment, which includes all the amenities and support requirements of a conference centre. Existing services would be enhanced through the establishment of a reproduction centre, certified training centre, e-learning development centre and a videoteleconferencing hub for staff who are unable to travel to the site. In addition, support activities would include travel and medical services for personnel attending training courses.

Implementation

66. The following steps are envisaged to be taken:

(a) In 2009/10, the training space available on the Base will be expanded and the technical facilities currently available will be enhanced;

(b) In 2010/11, existing facilities will be adapted to accommodate multi-utility rooms that can accommodate classes of various sizes. A second large

classroom/meeting room would be made available. In-house training courses would be provided to Department of Field Support-supported missions both via videoteleconferencing and on-site. These activities would include the development of training staff and training of trainers to provide courses on all aspects of logistics, management and communications and the recruitment of support staff for the Training Centre;

(c) In 2011/12, the conference centre will expand its services to provide more professional and functional development courses and will publish a catalogue of courses available to the staff of Department of Field Support-supported missions and staff from United Nations agencies, funds and programmes.

Provision of procurement support to missions

Overview

67. Within the procurement authority delegated by the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support, the objective of this initiative is to provide procurement support to start-up, liquidating and expanding missions while they are either awaiting the establishment of their own capacity or do not have a dedicated capacity. In addition, the Base, through the use of rapid deployment teams, will provide in-mission support where necessary. This initiative will enable start-up mission staff to focus on establishing a local presence and on local procurement while essential material and services are procured via the Base. This "umbilical" support would decrease over time as the mission is established. Initially, non-strategic deployment stock items would be procured via the Chief Procurement Officer's procurement delegation and the UNLB Local Committee on Contracts. Goods would be tendered, with the destination being either the new mission or Brindisi (e.g. cargo consolidation or integration). The Base, in consultation with the Department of Field Support and its Field Procurement Policy and Liaison Team, will act as a focal point for various procurement issues at the operational field level in order to provide administrative support for Department of Field Support-supported missions.

Implementation

68. The following steps are envisaged to be taken:

(a) In 2009/10, procurement support requirements for start-up and liquidating missions will be defined, including additional resource requirements;

(b) In 2010/11, procurement facilities and contracts will be expanded, including the establishment of enhanced capacity, as required;

(c) In 2011/12, administrative procedures will be revised to support the expanded customer base.

Archives management

Overview

69. The Base will establish an archiving capacity that would serve its own internal needs but which could eventually serve as an archive hub for field missions. The archiving capacity will implement Archives and Records Management Section procedures, thus providing consistency in how mission archives are managed and stored. UNLB and mission documents would be submitted in the format required for

digitizing and cataloguing in a central repository. This would offer ease of access for operational and administrative purposes and audit entities and would standardize archiving for documentation.

Implementation

70. The following steps are envisaged to be taken:

(a) In 2009/10, an area will be refurbished as an archive centre. The recruitment of staff will start during this period. Policy development, promulgation and implementation will commence;

(b) In 2010/11, an archive policy and project roll-out will be implemented to cover any backlog activities from periods prior to the establishment of the archiving capacity and recruitment of staff will be completed;

(c) In 2011/12, the archiving of documents from field missions, which will be centrally registered and stored.

Mission deployment teams

Overview

71. The Base has provided small technical and administrative support teams on request, utilizing UNLB core staff from the Communications and Information Technology Services, Receiving and Inspection, Supply and Procurement Sections, among others, to missions during their start-up and/or expansion phases. Under the direction of the Department of Field Support, the Base proposes to establish a supplementary capacity of technical and administrative support teams to deploy to new and expanding missions as well as to established missions that are in need of short-term assistance. This concept builds on the successful initiative established by the Communications and Information Technology Services under the Rapid Deployment Unit. The teams could also provide assistance to missions during the pre-liquidation and liquidation phases to assess the viability of sending assets to Brindisi for refurbishment and inventory holding.

Implementation

72. The following steps are envisaged to be taken:

(a) In 2009/10, the existing ad hoc capacity of the Base will be expanded to include a full range of support functions;

(b) In 2010/11, the concept of mission deployment teams will continue to be developed in accordance with the plan of the Department of Field Support to provide operationally oriented, results-driven and efficient support to the field operations of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Political Affairs, and the Department of Safety and Security. At a later stage, the teams could be made available to agencies, funds and programmes on a cost-recovery basis.

IV. Investments

73. The implementation of the plan will require a considerable investment in buildings and ICT infrastructure, to be put in place within a realistic time frame.

A. Infrastructure

74. Over the two-year period during which the investments in the infrastructure will take place, the plan proposes that the following infrastructure investments be carried out:

Financial year 2009/10:

(a) Refurbishment of cafeteria — estimated cost: $460,000.

This building, which was transferred from the Italian Air Force under addendum II to the memorandum of understanding, has been out of service for some years and needs to be refurbished in order to meet requirements for the additional staff as envisaged in the plan and already approved, and the increase in personnel under training.

(b) Infrastructure, electrical upgrade — estimated cost: $1,000,000.

The increase in demand from the UNLB Communications and Information Technology Services requires the installation of a dedicated medium-tension line to the Base and the upgrading of the existing electrical infrastructure.

(c) New entrance for cargo vehicles — estimated cost: $450,000.

The existing condition of the entrance creates congestion in the surrounding residential area when cargo is delivered or removed, and the existing condition of the route necessitates that all traffic move through the whole length of the Base in order to reach the logistic area, thus creating a safety hazard.

(d) Communications and Information Technology Services building to accommodate all offices of the Services, Telecommunications Centre and Network Communications Centre — estimated cost: $5,870,000 over two years, Phase 1 in financial year 2009/10 estimated cost: $2,330,000.

(e) Preparation of a new vehicle, container storage and disposal area for strategic deployment stocks — estimated cost: $350,000. The area that exists now will be used for construction of the new Communications and Information Technology Services facilities.

(f) Renovation of facilities in various buildings in order to provide training facilities — estimated cost: $725,000.

(g) Refurbishment of building for use by Engineering Standards and Design Centre — estimated cost: $330,000.

(h) Refurbishment of basement of building 254 as an archive centre — estimated cost: $325,000.

(i) Construction of a service and staff elevator for buildings 94 and 254 — estimated cost: $90,000.

(j) Landscaping works around various buildings — estimated cost: $125,000.

(k) Asphalting and concrete works on various roads and areas — estimated cost: $270,000.

(l) Renovation works in building 152 — estimated cost: $140,000.

(m) Conversion of four individual cooling units in building 261 to a cooling system — estimated cost: $120,000.

(n) Construction of an interim equipment room and provision of a perimeter lighting system for surveillance at Site B — estimated cost: $100,000.

75. Finalization of the above projects will result in an all inclusive increase of the Base maintenance plan by $268,000 per year.

Estimated cost for financial year 2009/10: $7,083,000

Financial year 2010/11

76. The following activities are envisaged to be carried out:

(a) Replacement and upgrade of temporary warehouse structures and offices in the logistic area. Estimated cost: $2,400,000.

(b) Communications and Information Technology Services building phase 2. Estimated cost: $3,540,000.

(c) Upgrade and replacement of water distribution system on the Base in the logistics and administrative areas. Estimated cost: $400,000.

77. Finalization of the above projects will result in an all-inclusive increase of the Base maintenance plan by $435,000 per year.

Estimated cost for financial year 2010/11: $6,775,000

Total estimated infrastructure cost of long-term plan: $13,858,000

B. Administrative Support

78. Administrative Support Services currently comprises the Personnel, Procurement, Finance, Property Management, and Facilities Management Sections, as well as the Medical Clinic, and provides administrative support services to all sections and Tenant Units, including over 200 personnel from second-party contractors (United Nations Office for Project Services and the International Criminal Court) and a third-party contractor (Trigyn). In addition, in the financial year 2007/08, the Services supported 189 training courses for 3,040 staff from 20 missions and 13 United Nations entities.

79. In the evolution of the United Nations Logistics Base from a logistics base to a mission support service provider, capacity within Administrative Services has not kept pace and, owing to the confidential nature of many of its activities, it could not fully avail itself of the logistics support service contract provided by an Italian temporary agency. In addition, along with increased field delegated responsibilities, the additional staff from Tenant Units and trainees from 20 missions, the capacity

gap in the Services has inhibited the delivery of quality services to clients. Administrative Services will need to address this gap and enhance its delivery capacity in order to improve, to an acceptable level, the quality and type of support provided to Base staff and trainees. Expansion of the capabilities of the Personnel, Finance, Facilities Management, Procurement, and Property Management Sections, as well as the Medical Clinic, will support the growth of the Base and set the foundation for the future growth and initiatives as set forth in the plan.

V. Change in designation

80. With the transition of the activities of the Base from predominately a logistic functions to a Support Base for Department of Field Support operations worldwide, the identity and designation of the Base should reflect all the support activities in which it is now involved. It is therefore recommended that the name of the Base be changed to the United Nations Support Base, which is in line with the strengthening of peacekeeping through the creation of the Department of Field Support.

81. Given the current level of support provided by the Base and the proposed expansion of its mandate and responsibilities, it is suggested that a level and reporting lines of the senior management of the Base be revised. The extent and number of non-logistics functions call for the elevation of the current reporting line to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support and a greater focus on strategic initiatives. It is therefore recommended that the post of Director of the Support Base be established at the D-2 level.

Annex III

Analysis of the Engineering Standards and Design Centre and the Geographic Information System Centre

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in its report A/62/781/Add.12, requested the Secretary-General to submit an analysis of the Engineering Standards and Design Centre and the Geographic Information System Centre in the context of the proposed budget for the United Nations Logistics Base for 2009/10. The present report provides an assessment of the activities and achievement of the Engineering Standards and Design Centre and the Geographic Information System Centre during their first year of operation.

II. Engineering Standards and Design Centre

Lines of reporting

2. The staff of the Engineering Standards and Design Centre comprises one P-4, one P-3 and two General Service (Other level) posts. The Centre reports directly to the Chief Engineer at United Nations Headquarters. The Centre is supported by the Office of the Director, United Nations Logistics Base, with regard to administrative matters.

Goal of establishing the Engineering Standards and Design Centre

3. The Centre was established to enhance engineering support to United Nations peacekeeping missions and to function as the centralized design centre for the development of standardized and improved design packages (drawings, scope of works, bills of quantities and technical specifications), scales, guidelines, planning tools and templates to facilitate the quick and efficient implementation of engineering works in all United Nations field missions and, as a result, to improve the overall efficiency of field engineering programmes.

Gains realized in the first year of operation

4. Since the Centre became operational in April 2008, it has made great strides towards achieving its goal of becoming the centralized location from which engineers in field missions can easily access standardized design packages (drawings, scope of works, bills of quantities and technical specifications) as well as useful planning tools and templates to support engineering works in the field. Within eight months of being in operation, the following milestones have been reached:

(a) The Department of Field Support Engineering Database has been established and is fully functional. The database is easily accessible through Lotus Notes and currently has users from every United Nations peacekeeping mission. The database, which is centralized, is accessed on a daily basis by users who are looking for data, including on various aspects of engineering planning and design as well as

guidelines, standards, policy and best practices. The database has become the primary one-stop location to access engineering data relevant to field works in all United Nations peacekeeping missions. As of October 2008, the database consisted of the best engineering examples from most of the major field missions as well as all available standards, guidelines and policies within the Department of Field Support. Additional data received from other missions as well as new products being developed by the Centre are also currently being included in the database. The inclusion of that information has eliminated the need to send mass e-mails to all missions when specific engineering data is required;

(b) The Centre has also established and maintains a virtual workspace to facilitate real-time dialogue and exchanges of information among field engineers, the Centre and the Engineering Section at United Nations Headquarters. All peacekeeping missions have been invited to join and have been issued software licences. As of October 2008, 16 missions were connected to the virtual workspace, and useful exchanges of engineering data take place on a daily basis. The workspace provides the ability to easily exchange large files (i.e. engineering AutoCAD drawings) in real time, which cannot usually be done via e-mail. It is therefore no longer necessary to mail/pouch CDs and/or memory sticks with large format files, which usually takes at least one week. The virtual workspace brings together, for the first time, engineers from all United Nations missions to the same forum in real time on a regular basis, as and when required;

(c) The camp planning template has been developed. The template allows field engineers to input project-specific data, thereby providing the necessary planning information, such as space allocation, material and asset requirements, and approximate cost estimates in accordance with United Nations accommodation guidelines and minimum standards. The template also provides links to related construction documents, such as drawings, scope of works, technical specifications and bills of quantities as well as related systems contracts through which required resources can be procured. The template is an efficient tool which helps field engineers to determine the general requirements for setting up camps of varying sizes to meet United Nations standards and is especially useful in start-up missions or in missions where the engineers have no previous experience of United Nations standards and guidelines. It will also help to standardize and streamline camp planning and construction across all field missions, resulting in greater efficiency. The camp planning template was introduced to all missions at the Chief Engineers' conference in October 2008. It received very positive feedback as a primary design tool that had been missing from field engineering. The finalized version will be available for trial use in missions in 2009;

(d) The headquarters planning template is currently under development and, while similar to the camp design planning template, provides all information needed to quickly and efficiently plan mission headquarters. The template contains detailed space allocation and planning data in accordance with United Nations accommodation guidelines and minimum standards, and allows field engineers to input project-specific data, thereby providing the necessary space allocation requirements for the purpose of precise planning of mission headquarters. Like the camp planning template, the headquarters planning template also provides links to related Headquarters space planning documents, such as typical layout plans and standard United Nations furniture and asset information. The template is currently in an advanced draft stage and will be finalized and ready for trial in missions by the

second quarter of 2009. No similar template is currently available for common use in United Nations missions;

(e) The Centre has identified frequently required engineering services in the field and is developing standardized statements of requirements and specifications, including standardized design packages, for the quick and efficient outsourcing of those services. The standardized statements of requirements are intended to serve as templates that will allow field engineers to incorporate project/mission-specific data for use in bidding processes for the procurement of required services. Currently, statements of requirements are being developed to outsource the construction of camps, including the erection of prefabricated buildings, ablution facilities, fencing and security lighting, watchtowers, walkways/pathways, septic tanks and soak pits and T-walls as well as outsourcing maintenance of generators and the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, plumbing and water treatment maintenance, cleaning and gardening services, and sewage and garbage disposal services, among others. The statements of requirements currently being developed, along with related standard design packages, will be available for trial in the field from the end of the second quarter of 2009.

Gains in efficiency, effectiveness and performance

5. The establishment of a centralized design centre which provides required designs, templates, guidelines and all other relevant engineering data to support and facilitate engineering works in the field will reduce the need to establish the same capacity in multiple field missions, although a continuing requirement for the retention of a capacity for mission and project-specific knowledge will remain.

6. The standardization of engineering design will also promote the standardization of engineering equipment and related platforms, which will in turn improve efficiency, reduce costs related to purchase and maintenance, reduce waste and facilitate quicker implementation of engineering works in the field while maintaining consistently high standards. The standardization of engineering design and equipment would also reduce the need (and costs) for user training for technicians.

7. The development of the camp planning and headquarters planning templates, which provide key data on material requirements and related costs, will not only promote the quicker planning and implementation of those installations but will also allow for more accurate budgeting and monitoring of resources, thereby reducing waste and the loss of materials.

8. The use of standard statements of requirements for outsourcing engineering works and services in field missions will allow for the provision of needed services of consistently high standards and for more stringent monitoring of the related contracts and costs involved.

9. The availability of standardized design packages and teams of experts from the Centre who can be readily deployed to assist with works in field missions will enable the quick and efficient implementation of engineering works, which is of particular value in the case of start-up missions, where the recruitment of required experts often takes weeks, and sometimes months.

10. The increased and improved interaction between engineers from all field missions via the virtual workspace of the Centre will promote the exchange of

useful data, ideas and expertise among the engineering components in field missions, thereby increasing the overall standard and uniformity of engineering works.

III. Geographic Information System Centre

11. The GIS Centre is located in and administered by the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, and receives programme direction from the Chief of the Cartographic Section of the Department of Field Support at United Nations Headquarters.

Objectives and goals of the Centre

12. The primary goal of the GIS Centre is to enhance the United Nations geospatial information capacity in the field, including the rapid provision of mission start-up support, and to improve operational readiness. In order to ensure access by United Nations Headquarters and field missions to timely and effective geospatial information, the GIS Centre enhances interoperability and coordination by maintenance of a common geospatial information database as a repository for storing all mission data.

Gains realized in the first year of operation of the Centre

13. The first-year strategy comprised two phases. The first focused on the establishment of the GIS Centre capacity within three months, with the Centre being declared fully operational with effect from 31 December 2007. The production of mapping deliverables requested by field operations and the establishment of the geospatial database infrastructure were among the major milestones. The second phase, completed by 30 June 2008, focused on completing a number of projects that had been requested by field missions, in addition to fulfilling mandated objectives, which were:

(a) To acquire and produce base geospatial information (geo-database), including topographic base maps for mission planning and start-up extending to the existing missions without base maps.

- The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL): seven 1:50,000 scale topographic maps and associated geo-database (NATO standard) were completed by December 2007. A seamless and interoperable UNIFIL and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) geo-database was created comprising 20 map sheets, including quality control and assurance of the geo-database
- The African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID): with no existing map of the UNAMID area of operations, an immediate operational requirement was to provide image and topographic maps at 1:50,000-100,000 scale. In partnership with the European Commission Joint Research Centre, the GIS Centre has delivered approximately 140 satellite image maps (50 per cent of the total requirement) and 32 topographic maps (25 per cent of the total requirement). In the first half of 2008, project leadership and management required approximately 75 per cent of the Centre's capacity;

(b) To provide geospatial analysis and maps, in particular for mission planning and start-up:

- UNAMID camp site terrain analysis: using satellite imagery and geospatial analysis techniques, several terrain and flood hazard models were created around four potential camp sites, and recommendations were provided to UNAMID
- UNAMID groundwater assessment: ongoing project to provide an analysis of potential groundwater sources around 34 peacekeeping camp sites
- Maintain the Department of Peacekeeping Operations/Department of Field Support geo-database repository, including backup/replication of mission geo-database and the geo-database of the Cartographic Section of the DFS
- System installation, testing and integration of GIS software and hardware, which are complete. Geo-database integration permits replication from the Cartographic Section and geo-database creation for UNDOF, UNIFIL, UNAMID and the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad;

(c) Enhance the flow of geospatial information between missions and United Nations Headquarters:

- Review and assessment of current global GIS systems architecture. The existing situation has been evaluated and an initial design for future system architecture has been outlined
- Develop the GIS system architecture concept and geo-database structure to enhance three-tier information flows among Headquarters, UNLB and missions. This work is aimed to better account for the Centre's specific work in order to fulfil a Department of Field Support result-based-budgeting output. Improved access of the Security Council to GIS data, satellite imagery and scanned maps by the establishment of an interactive database;

(d) To provide GIS application services:

- Interactive web-mapping system established between UNLB and missions: web-mapping monitors mapping status and aligns all participants regarding the analysed GIS features. A Google Earth Enterprise System for specific United Nations operational use was established and GIS data ingestion is ongoing. In collaboration with the missions, the Centre is developing an implementation plan for the ingestion of satellite imagery, mission maps and vector datasets to fully populate the United Nations Google Earth visualization system. This provides a cross-cutting service from the GIS Centre in Brindisi to the missions, which is replicated at the Cartographic Section and links the daily needs of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations Situation Centre and the decision-making components of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support as well as Security Council consultations and meetings
- Establishment of a project management tool for coordinating GIS production activities. To quantify efficiency, a project-based server application was implemented as an integrated project management tool to geographically link

dispersed teams. A web-based application was developed to instantly view the progress at work.

(e) To provide training in GIS, remote sensing, global positioning system (GPS), surveying and mapping related areas:

- Two training sessions were conducted: ArcGIS map production line tool sets training, and a customized United Nations Google Earth Viewer course; 22 participants attended the sessions
- GIS induction sessions were conducted: a total of 10 mission GIS staff received geospatial-specific induction prior to deployment
- Three working manuals, technical guidelines and standards adjustment were developed;

(f) To provide assistance for logistics and requisitions for start-up missions:

- Provided technical specification and evaluation for establishing a systems contract for satellite imagery
- Developed concept and specification of containerized GIS rapid deployment module, which can be immediately operational on day 1 of deployment;

(g) Deploy a GIS start-up team for onsite assistance during mission GIS Unit start-up:

- Onsite technical assistance visit to UNAMID for GIS analysis of camp sites and water assessment, terrain analysis and verification;

(h) To perform other functions as assigned by the Chief of Cartographic Section, Department of Field Support:

- Establish and develop technical alliances with strategic partners. Collaborative efforts have been initiated on a number of projects with the European Commission Joint Research Centre, Bureau geographique interarmees, France, European Union Satellite Centre, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Intelligence Fusion Centre and United States National Geospatial Intelligence Agency
- Natural resource geo-database: this development supports the Cartographic Section's activities on international boundary issues as well as mission planning and support. The database leads to a four component geo-database (mineral, oil and gas, water resources and land use/agriculture)
- Special GIS application for Strategic Air Operations Centre: technical support assistance was provided to develop a global aviation fleet monitoring and tracking system
- Explore 3-dimensional sub-surface GIS: developed a procedure to integrate geological, borehole and geophysical information within groundwater assessment methodologies.

14. During its first year of operation, the GIS Centre successfully carried out its mandate and objectives and enhanced the peacekeeping global geospatial service capacity in order to meet operational requirements effectively and in a timely fashion. It has also made significant progress towards its achievement of becoming the centralized strategic GIS asset for peacekeeping operations.

Gains in efficiency, effectiveness and performance

15. With the establishment of the GIS Centre at Brindisi, the Department of Field Support has gained: (a) effectiveness of operational support, by the enhancement of its enabling capability for geospatial information in support of missions, particularly in the stages of mission planning and start-up, as proven by the ongoing Darfur mapping production and terrain analysis; and (b) efficiency, by replacing scattered mission problems and activities with a centralized activity to capitalize on economies of scale and standardization. This capacity has supported the operational requirement of field missions in order to ensure that they are provided with suitable geospatial information on a timely basis and to meet the requirements for interoperability among the missions as well as United Nations Headquarters.

16. Lessons learned have demonstrated that in order to fulfil a mission's operational requirements, GIS capability must be established and the appropriate base maps and geo-database developed. The most effective and efficient means of achieving geo-data production capacity is to centralize production efforts. Furthermore, centralized core GIS capacities for mission start-up and terrain analysis, as well as geospatial visualization systems development, such as the United Nations Google Earth enterprise system for peacekeeping, can be implemented concurrently. In this connection, the GIS Centre is playing a critical role. As demonstrated by its support to the Darfur and UNIFIL mapping projects, peacekeeping operations will benefit greatly from the continued development of the capacity of the GIS Centre.